Hafa Adai!

Group holds rally vs Torres administration. PAGE 2
United announces new Saturday evening flight. PAGE 14

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# Saipan Tribune

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# Partial payment only

» 'They are delinquent in their payment'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres confirmed over the weekend that casino operator Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC paid only a third of its $15-million annual license renewal fee.

"I was given an update from [the Commonwealth Casino Commission] and the [Office of the Attorney General] that they made…[a] $5-million payment," he told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview Saturday afternoon.

"I believe there is a procedure that CCC and the OAG is moving into what…the regulation and law requires and we will be moving in

See PARTIAL on Page 4

## SIS student shines in summer internship

Saipan International School senior Anika Snyder presents the results of her summer internship to new faculty members of the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan International School senior Anika Snyder was asked to present the results of her summer internship to new faculty members from the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

More than 50 new professors visited the Discovery Place Education Studio in Charlotte, N.C. to receive an overview of current research projects at UNCC and Snyder was invit-

See SIS on Page 4

## CW group asks for deferred action

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres address a crowd of over 200 CW workers at the Marianas Business Plaza parking lot last Saturday afternoon.

ERWIN ENCINARES

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres met with over 200 Filipino workers last Saturday afternoon at the Marianas Business Plaza parking lot to accept a letter that urges the Office of the

» Clarifications sought on HR 559
» Torres assures representation

Governor to appeal to federal immigration authorities for deferred action on their pending CW cases, along with some concerns.

Specifically, the informal group is requesting for temporary relief

See CW on Page 4

HYATT OWNER MEETS WITH DPL

## Plight of 260 Hyatt employees depends on lease renewal

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

Hyatt Regency Saipan, still the only international brand hotel in the Northern Marianas after almost 38 years, has a public land lease that's expiring in December 2021. Yet with only a little over two years to go, its lease renewal remains up

See PLIGHT on Page 4

Kobe Portopia Hotel Corp. president and owner Hitoshi Nakauchi was on Saipan last week to continue negotiations with the Department of Public Lands about the renewal of Hyatt Regency Saipan's lease.

DONNA RIVERA

## INSIDE

**ASIA**
Members of China's People's Armed Police marched and practiced crowd control tactics.

PAGE 16

**WORLD**
Government and Russian airstrikes pounded the edge of a rebel stronghold in Syria.

PAGE 17

**LIFE & STYLE**
Actor Peter Fonda, the son of a Hollywood legend who became a movie star in his own right, has died.

PAGE 20

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# Local

## Group holds rally vs Torres administration

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

A peaceful assembly at the Garapan Fishing Base last Friday against the Torres administration drew about 40 participants that also saw the participation of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), and opposition lawmakers Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Christina Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Participants held up signs along Beach Road, fronting the Kristo Rai Church. They were later given free T-shirts and posters.

The group, which called itself the NMI Citizens for Change and spearheaded by NMI Democratic Party chair Nola Hix, organized the assembly to, according to the group, find solutions to the administration's lack of transparency, the ongoing government austerity measures, the issues surrounding Imperial Pacific International and the upcoming project of American Sinopan (CNMI) LLC.

Hix accused Gov. Ralph DLG Torres of a lack of action regarding IPI owing the CNMI government in taxes and that people in government are suffering due to the ongoing austerity measures.

She also said that, in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu, people are suffering even more with the austerity measures, the delays in tax rebates, and that many are still recovering from the aftermath of the typhoon.

Rep. Christina Sablan said she supports the freedom and the right of citizens to peacefully assemble and the freedom of the group's goal to ask the government for transparency.

She said that the CNMI needs more concerned citizens to speak up and share their concerns, so they can find a way to work with the government to find solutions.

A participant, who identified himself as a political moderate who voted for Torres in the last election, said that this was his first time to join an assembly like this. He said that he wanted to practice his First Amendment right by participating in a peaceful assembly.

"Just as it stands right now, economically, we are not at a good standpoint. …A lot of the decisions made by the government will ultimately affect us and the people have the opportunity to make changes with their right to vote," he said.

In order for things to go well, everyone needs to work together, he said, in order to find a solution, especially with the ongoing austerity measures. "The time is ticking and it's time for us to be well aware about what's going on in the community," he said.

According to Hix, the NMI Citizens for Change will continue to hold these assemblies every austerity Fridays until the order to end the austerity measures have been implemented. Hix said the group is open to a response from Torres.

The group's motto is #RiseUPCNMI; it describes itself as a "grassroots organization."

Members participating in the NMI Citizens for Change's assembly last Friday display signs to passing drivers at the Garapan Fishing Base. This assembly sought for transparency in the government and solutions for ongoing issues such as the government austerity issues. MARC A. VENUS

## Probationer allegedly admits 'ice' use

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court has summoned a federal probationer to explain why his probation should not be revoked for violating the terms and conditions of his probation.

Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy granted last week the U.S. Probation Office's petition to summon Vicente Matagolai Aldan to show cause why his supervised release should not be revoked.

Aldan's initial appearance hearing is set for Aug. 29 at 2pm.

According to the U.S. Probation Office, Aldan failed to abide by the condition of his supervision when he admitted to the use of methamphetamine or "ice" on July 27, 2019.

Probation officer Gregory F. Arriola reported that Aldan tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine and amphetamine during a random drug test at the U.S. Probation Office.

The report also states that Aldan was reminded to refrain from further drug use, to which he agreed.

In August 1999, Aldan was sentenced to 21 years imprisonment for three offenses—hostage taking, felon in possession of a firearm, and transfer of a firearm—knowing it will be used to commit a crime of violence, followed by a five-year term of supervised release. Aldan's supervised release started in December last year.

## Military training in Dandan, FDM Warning Area 517

**ASAN, Guam**—Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 will conduct training from 11am to 11:55am on Aug. 19-22 at the Dandan-Malojloj training site in Inarajan.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed, if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. The public should be advised that routine helicopter training, often accompanied with the use of blanks, can occur during these trainings.

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training from 10:30am to 2:30pm on Aug. 19-21 and Aug. 23 at the island of Farallon de Medinilla.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct training from 5am to 10pm on Aug. 22 at the island of Farallon de Medinilla.

This training supports aircrew combat readiness and is critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be within a 12-nautical-mile radius of the island, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Navy will conduct training from 7am to 4pm on Aug. 23 at Warning Area 517. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40 00"N. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10"N/144° 30"E, 13° 10"N/144° 42"E, 12° 50"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/143° 00"E, 11° 45"N/143° 00"E, and 12° 50"N/144° 30"E.

It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. ***(PR)***

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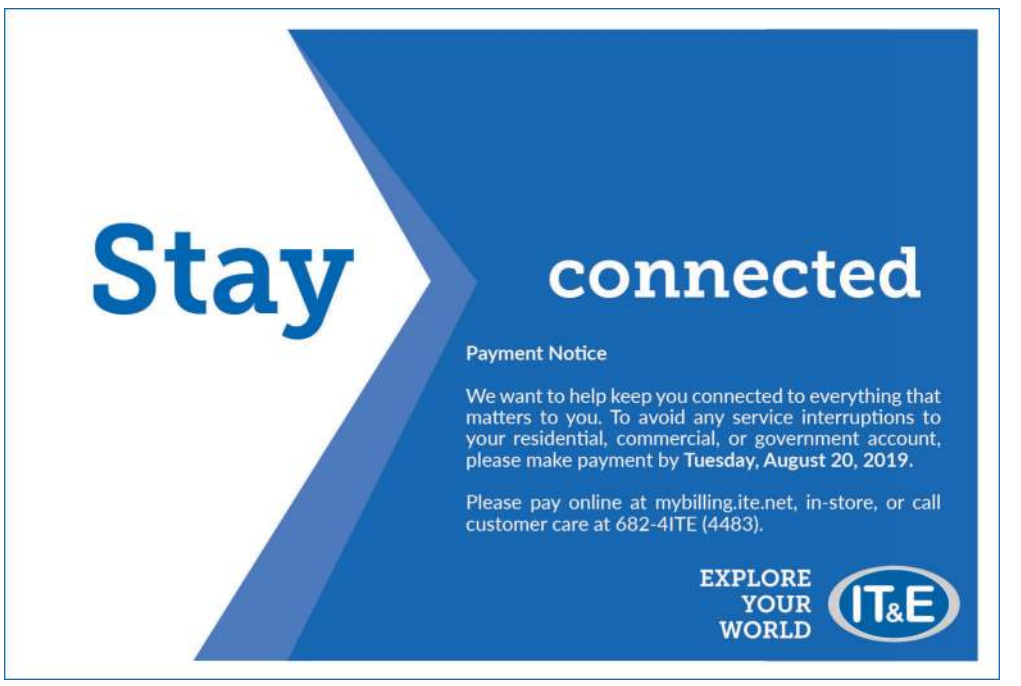
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# IPI seeks dismissal of CCC's counterclaim

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has asked the federal court to dismiss the Commonwealth Casino Commission's counterclaim against IPI.

CCC's counterclaim seeks court's order requiring IPI to pay as indemnification if the court determines that CCC is liable to pay damages for releasing confidential information of IPI's subsidiaries.

IPI, through counsel Viola Alepuyo and Phillip J. Tydingco, asserted that CCC's counterclaim is legally defective as the complaint of IPI's subsidiaries does not allege a claim for damages that is cognizable under the law.

Alepuyo and Tydingco argued that the claim for damages of IPI's subsidiaries—Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC—against CCC based on Commonwealth law is barred as the subsidiaries have not complied with the mandatory administrative prerequisite for filing a suit for damages against CCC.

That means CCC's counterclaim is procedurally incorrect, they said.

"The proper procedural pleading is a third-party complaint filed in response to the intervenors complaint and not a counterclaim based on IPI's complaint," Alepuyo and Tydingco said.

The intervenors in this case are IPI's two subsidiaries.

CCC, through assistant attorney general Benjamin K. Petersburg, asked the court to hold IPI liable to pay CCC damages, court costs, and attorneys' fees.

Petersburg said IPI provided information to the CCC pursuant to a CCC order that included information about Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC.

Last July 12, Grand Marianas and IPP filed a complaint as intervenors in IPI's lawsuit against CCC.

Petersburg said Grand Marianas and IPP allege various causes of action against the CCC related to the public availability of the information provided by IPI to the CCC pursuant to the order which Commonwealth law specifically declares not confidential.

Petersburg said IPI knew, at the time it provided information to the CCC, that the information would be made publicly available. Thus, he said, CCC cannot be faulted for disclosing or making public any information related to IPI's subsidiaries.

In IPI's motion to dismiss filed Thursday, Alepuyo and Tydingco said a District Court may dismiss a claim where there is an absence of sufficient factual statements establishing a facially plausible claim to relief or when the pleading fails to allege a viable or cognizable legal theory.

Alepuyo and Tydingco said if the pleading cannot be cured as matter of law, then the dismissal should be with prejudice. That means CCC cannot re-file the counterclaim.

The lawyers said a claim for damages pursuant to a statute, Section 1983, can only be brought against a person.

Section 1983 creates a remedy for violations of federal rights committed by persons acting under color of state law.

Alepuyo and Tydingco said CCC is not a person for Section 1983 purposes. Thus, they said, the subsidiaries have not, at this time, alleged a viable claim for damages under Section 1983.

Moreover, they said, even if CCC had named various CCC members or agents in their individual capacities, the subsidiaries have not requested any damages, and as no damages are required, their claim, of any, are not ripe.

Nevertheless, Alepuyo and Tydingco said, even if the subsidiaries had alleged a proper claim for damages under Section 1983 or if they amend their complaint to allege a claim for damages against a person, then CCC's counterclaim would still be improper as federal law does not allow a claim for indemnification based on a Section 1983 claim for damages.

Nevertheless, the lawyers said, the subsidiaries' non-federal claims are barred under Commonwealth law for failure to exhaust the mandatory administrative remedies.

Alepuyo and Tydingco said the subsidiaries claim for damages against CCC based on Commonwealth law is barred as subsidiaries have not complied with the mandatory administrative perquisite for filing a suit for damages against CCC.

IPI is suing CCC to prohibit CCC from disclosing publicly confidential income tax information that is the subject of a dispute between IPI and CCC.

## PH consulate holds 3rd consular outreach

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI Glicerio Arago, just ended its third consular mission on Saipan this year. The three-day consular mission was held from last Thursday to Saturday at the Kristo Rai Parish social hall.

According to consul Mark Francis Hamoy, this mission focused on Philippine citizens who needed new passports.

Other services provided were petitions for dual citizenship, vital reports, reports of marriage, and reports of birth from the Philippine Statistics Authority or from the former National Statistics Office.

Hamoy said the passport processing entertained about 20 people per hour. "Sometimes the numbers overlap, but we try to keep it at less than 30 people at a given time to avoid overcrowding," he said. *(Marc A. Venus)*

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## SIS

*From Page 1*

ed to present the results of her summer research as a part of the orientation.

The Discovery Place is an interactive science museum that ranks as one of the state's largest tourist destination in North Carolina with over 700,000 visitors per year. The Discovery Place houses an indoor rainforest, anatomy exhibitions, a touch tank, and an IMAX theater. It also has an extensive aquarium display. This display features hundreds of marine species from all across the world, including many species of coral. Typically, identification of coral and their symbiotic algae can be quite tricky. This is where Snyder's summer internship came in.

Snyder joined the Reitzel Lab at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for an internship over the summer and worked to identify the types of algae living within the coral samples displayed at Discovery Place Science. These algae are important because they provide a tremendous amount of the corals' energy requirements.

With the help of Elliot Provance, director of Collections at the Discovery Place Science, Natalie Wells (UNCC undergraduate researcher in the Reitzel lab) was able to collect coral samples from the aquariums and extract their DNA. Snyder then used methods such as a polymerase chain reactions and restriction enzyme digests to distinguish between different types of algae hosted within the coral samples. This information will later be used to develop programs and displays within Discovery Place Science to inform the public about how molecular data can be used for species identification and biogeography.

Snyder is an Advance Placement Capstone Diploma candidate at SIS, having successfully completed AP Seminar last year. AP Seminar provides students the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills and explore real-world issues, culminating in formal presentations before a live audience.

"The critical thinking and presentation skills that students learn in seminar will help our students succeed at university and beyond and definitely helped Anika gain the confidence and experience necessary to successfully present her work in front of a large panel of professional scientists," said SIS college counselor Whit Altizer.

AP Seminar is followed by AP Research, where students plan and conduct a year-long research-based investigation to explore a research topic of individual interest.

Snyder plans on building off of her work at the Reitzel lab to further her knowledge of the symbiotic relationships between coral and zooxanthella.

### SIS gets 80% AP passing rate

In other news, SIS achieved an over 80% passing rate for the AP classes for the year despite the technological challenges wrought by Super Typhoon Yutu.

AP classes, taught at beginning college level, are content-dense, accelerated and demanding, and without the internet, proved to be even more challenging for students.

The results, published by AP and the College Board, is particularly impressive in light of the number and diversity of exams taken by SIS students and the challenges the teachers faced in preparing for the exams.

SIS students banded together in coffee shops, around iPhone hotspots, and even under a shady tree to study to meet the varied challenges of AP Calculus, AP Human Geography, AP Language, AP German, AP Japanese and Spanish, and AP Seminar, among others. The teachers also ensured that the students had the high quality, critically-demanding lessons required to prepare for the exams.

AP Seminar, the first class of the AP Capstone Diploma, stood out for its 100% pass rate. Their average was over 3.8, almost a full point higher than the national average.

The SIS' results were generally above the CNMI national average in every exam category, and often above the international average for several categories, including AP Human Geography, German, and Japanese.

SIS is the only school in Micronesia approved to offer the AP Capstone Diploma. SIS is excited to welcome students into the second class of the program, AP Research. With the addition of AP Research, AP Physics and AP Biology, SIS high school students currently have the choice of 11 AP classes, more than any other school in the CNMI. ***(PR, Saipan Tribune, Iva Maurin)***

## PLIGHT

*From Page 1*

in the air.

For Kobe Portopia Hotel Corp. president and owner Hitoshi Nakauchi, whose company owns Hyatt Regency Saipan, one of his biggest concerns is the future of Hyatt's over 260 employees, who are local residents.

Nakauchi, who was on Saipan last week to meet with the Department of Public Lands and start the ball rolling on the lease renewal, pointed out that more than 80% of Hyatt employees are CNMI residents.

"When my company started operations, 60% of our staff were Filipinos. Now, we have evolved and have more than 80% local people are working at the Hyatt," he said. "They are my concern and having a majority of local residents in our workforce has made a big contribution to the economy."

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa echoed this concern. "Two-hundred sixty employees will be affected by the result of the lease renewal agreement and, including their families, it would go up to 1,000 people," he said.

The lease of public lands in the CNMI is governed by law. Last December, the CNMI government enacted a law that authorizes certain existing public land lease terms to be extended up to 55 years and authorizes DPL to negotiate new public leases with certain existing public land lessees under new terms and considerations without publishing an RFP.

In his visit last week, Nakauchi called on DPL Secretary Marianne Teregeyo. "We talked about the land lease extension, whether it is possible or not or what kind of conditions should be met ….DPL will come back to us with their set of conditions for the renewal."

On the side of Hyatt, Nakauchi said they don't have specific numbers and conditions just yet. "[DPL] will come back to us and we will work on the conditions," he said.

The original lease for the Hyatt property was inked 30 years ago, so Nakauchi expects the fees to go up.

"But as far as how much it [would go up] and how much we can bear, that we have not discussed yet," he added.

According to Nakauchi, prior to his meeting with Teregeyo last week, DPL came up with a set of new lease conditions that were first shown to the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce for review as the Hyatt is a member of both organizations.

He said the new conditions were found to be "difficult" and "prohibitive for us to continue." HANMI reportedly complained that the new lease conditions were too "high" for a hotel to continue business operations.

"We gave it back to DPL and is currently under negotiations. …We hope to hear from them within this year or early next year. Otherwise, we don't have time to prepare. Japan's fiscal year ends in March and so, if our lease expires in December 2021, that will leave us one year and nine months to prepare and that is not enough," he said.

DPL is also asking Hyatt for a list of how it plans to improve the property, the community, and the economy, Nakauchi said. He assured that Hyatt has such plans.

"First off, [we plan] to acquire basic equipment and replacements such as chiller equipment, reverse osmosis (filter systems), which makes distilled water from seawater and those kinds of thing cost a huge amount," he said. "We plan to upgrade the guest rooms to be more modern, comfortable, functional design-wise, and suitable for this resort island. We also need to update the design of the restaurants," he said.

Hyatt has indeed been doing many minor improvements over the years, he said, but if the lease is renewed, they are eager to do more.

Hyatt has also made an impact on the CNMI, according to Nishikawa. One of the recent Hyatt community outreach was the annual Hyatt Charity Golf Classic that was held last July, where they raised a total of $68,000 for five beneficiaries involved in education, preserving culture, sports, and job placements.

Hyatt also did not close its eyes to the community after Super Typhoon Yutu. "Many residents took refuge at the Hyatt Regency Saipan before and after the typhoon. … People came to the hotel looking for power outlets to charge their phones, cook their food and we…let them do it. After Yutu, we were prepared for our guests and the community," he said.

Groups like the Northern Marianas Descent Corp. have been vocal about their desire to renegotiate the leases on public lands.

In an earlier interview, NMDC president John Gonzales said that NMDs were not in favor of the law that allowed lease extensions, saying NMDs do not benefit from the current land lease agreements.

"The over-arching position was that to keep the 40 years [lease] because, if they're all expiring, let's sit down again and negotiate the next 40 years. …We believe the current arrangement of 40 years under-represents us…and under-benefits us because the money doesn't directly benefit us," he said.

Nakauchi said he understands people's feelings about public lands. "It's their land so they want to make a good use of it. We should not get all the benefit from this land, we have to be able to share the benefit of the land. In that context, DPL and Hyatt can find a mutually aggregable position so that we can proceed."

"…My father, Tsutomu Nakauchi, started this business 28 years ago, after acquiring it from EIE Co. (which had been operating Hyatt for 10 years prior to acquisition). …With those many years invested, we are ready to cooperate," he added.

Nishikawa believes that Hyatt's greatest impact in the CNMI is making the Marianas known worldwide, since they have 800-plus hotels all over the world and every hotel is an agent. "Each hotel has its own customers and if these customers want to travel to the Pacific, they usually recommend the Hyatt Regency Saipan. …Everything at Hyatt is connected like a chain."

"People all over the world trust the Hyatt brand… For the CNMI, where tourism is the only industry on the island, those connections are very important," he added.

## PARTIAL

*From Page 1*

that direction, based on what is allowed [for] us to do," he added.

With IPI "delinquent in their payment," Torres noted that his administration is right now in the process of determining a legal and proper response.

"There are procedures that need to be followed and this is [an example of a procedure]; they [IPI] are delinquent in their payment, and so there are going to be procedures that need to be done in order for us to…give them due process," he noted.

CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero previously told *Saipan Tribune* that he believes IPI also needs to pay an additional $502,000 on top of the $15 million after factoring in adjustments on the consumer price index as statutorily mandated.

*Saipan Tribune* learned last week that IPI was delayed in paying for their annual casino license fee renewal payment of $15 million. This payment is on top of the annual $20 million Community Benefit Fund that's supposed to go to community projects.

*Saipan Tribune* did reach out to Finance Secretary David Atalig for verification on IPI's payment but, at that time, he was unable to do so since there is usually a 24-hour to 48-hour delay for international wire transfers.

"DOF is aware a wire transfer has been made by the licensee and will verify once the transfer process is completed. International wire transactions usually take 23-48 hours to process. Once verified, DOF will provide notice to the CCC and the Office of the Attorney General," he previously told *Saipan Tribune* in a statement.

IPI's deadline to pay their annual casino license renewal fee was Aug. 12, 2019.

According to the casino license agreement, delayed, partial, or the non-payment of "…any amount due and payable" within the casino license agreement constitutes a breach in the CLA.

A breach in the CLA can result in a license suspension or even revocation.

## CW

*From Page 1*

through deferred action after citing a delay in the renewal processes because of new rules from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, or USCIS, and clarification on the recently passed H.R. 559.

USCIS recently implemented new rules that require employers to secure Temporary Labor Certifications from the U.S. Department of Labor before applying for a CW renewal petition, effectively prolonging the CW renewal processing.

"We politely request your good office to come to an agreement with USCIS to provide temporary relief in the form of deferred actions for those who will eventually accrue unlawful presence here in the CNMI due to the untimely submission of their CW-1 renewal application," the letter, dated Aug. 17, 2019, said.

The CW group—composed mostly of long-term Filipino workers under the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program—noted in their letter that the delays stemmed from employers being reportedly told to "hold off in submitting renewal petitions for their CW-1 workers" until the CNMI Prevailing Wage Survey, or PWS, was released.

"While the first round of the [PWS] was released in May [2019], many employers and CW-1 employees had to wait until July [2019] for the release of the second round of the PWS, delaying the renewal process even further for those workers," the letter noted.

In an interview with the governor, he told *Saipan Tribune* that while there was a short question-and-answer portion during the meeting, he reached out to the group primarily to hear their concerns.

**A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com**

# CPA board OK's new boat for ports police

The police force of the Commonwealth Ports Authority will soon have a new boat after its board approved replacing the harbor patrol boat that CPA has been using for 15 years.

The boat, which would be made of metal, would built from scratch, based on the specifications of the port police. The original estimated cost of around $247,000 for the boat would be reassessed.

"What we need to do is compare the assessment of the cost, and estimate how much we want to budget using our specifications," said CPA board member Roman T. Tudela, who chairs the board's Financial Affairs Committee.

The CPA port police uses the boat for search and rescue missions that CPA has been doing with the Department of Public Safety, said CPA police chief Juan T. Dela Cruz.

He assured that procuring a new boat would benefit the public, since it will be used mostly to respond to anything in distress in the water surrounding the CNMI, especially Saipan.

"We need to…look into the capability of the boat…[since] it is a first responder boat," Dela Cruz said.

He said the boat the ports police are using now has had several breakdowns, prompting him to raise his concerns to the board to see what could be done for this critical asset of the CPA police department.

"The boat will be used primarily for responding to the needs of the Commonwealth in reference to search and rescue, and in the daily operations within the port of Saipan," Dela Cruz said. The boat will also be used for port protection purposes.

The board insists that CPA's request for proposal should include an up to two-year warranty and maintenance considerations. It was also mentioned that the purchase would be a truck-trailer-boat package, in that it would also have to come with a truck and a trailer that would pull the boat.

It was previously agreed by the board that the cost of purchasing a new boat is almost the same as paying for the repair of the existing boat. ***(Iva Maurin)***

## Two witnesses speak from the grave in land case

A lawsuit against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in Superior Court entered its fifth day of trial last Thursday with the presentation of the deposition of two key witnesses who have passed on earlier this year.

Last Thursday, Conrad M. Sablan, through his lawyer, Brien Sers Nicholas, called upon witnesses Jesus Takai, a former CUC surveyor, and Ramon Guerrero, former CUC director, to the stand to testify. However, since the two have already died, their testimonies were heard by deposition.

Deposition means taking the testimony of a witness outside of the court. It is used to gather information as part of the discovery process and, in limited circumstances, may be used at trial.

Sablan sued CUC back in 2015; the trial commenced last week.

Sablan is suing CUC and the CNMI government for allegedly putting up a water tank and fences on his land without compensating him.

According to Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho, the trial will continue in September.

Camacho said the court also visited last Tuesday the land in Rafugao that is involved in the legal dispute.

The Office of the Attorney General, on behalf of CUC, objected to the site visit back in 2018. According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, CUC and the government objected, arguing that it is uncertain what property or whether any property is relevant to the case.

Sablan said that he found out in 2013 that CUC had built the water tank, referred to as the Maui IV Water Tank, on his property. The tank was built in March 1992.

Sablan further discovered that CUC also built wire fences that prevent him from being able to access his other property in the area. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

## Court denies majority of evidence asked for by Rota mayor's co-defendant

The Superior Court granted in part but denied most of the evidence that Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig's co-defendant had asked for to defend herself in the jury trial in January 2020.

Vanessa Charfauros, Rota Department of Public Works resident director, was allowed to obtain criminal records and the legal status of the government's witnesses but was denied the Henthorn material, including internal affairs records, performance goals and awards, and rough interview notes of law enforcement officers and agents involved in the case.

The Commonwealth did not oppose the disclosure of criminal records of the government's witnesses and their legal status but argued that the court has no mechanism to produce the legal status of witnesses within the control and custody of the federal government.

That prompted Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja to grant Charfauros' request for criminal records of the government's witnesses except for documents and records within the federal government's custody.

Naraja denied the request for Henthorn material, saying more than mere speculation is required to trigger the Commonwealth's duty to search files and personnel records.

"Defendant has offered no support for her contention that personnel files, including internal affairs records and performance goals and awards, might contain information important to her case, besides conclusory statement that such information would provide impeachment material," Naraja stated.

Lastly, Naraja had to deny Charfauros's request for rough interview notes of law enforcers and agents involved in the case because the government determines which information in its control and custody is exculpatory and there has been no showing by the defense that the notes of law enforcers involved hold exculpatory material.

"If the defendant is aware of specific information contained in the government's file, 'she is free to request it directly from the court, and argue in favor of its materiality.' Mere speculation or allegations that the prosecution possesses exculpatory information will not suffice," Naraja said.

All the defendants, including Charfauros and Atalig, were charged with theft and misconduct in public office by the Office of the Attorney General for allegedly attending a Republican campaign rally in Guam in June 2018 in the guise of a legitimate government trip and taking government funds and salary compensation.

Charfauros and Atalig's co-defendants are Department of Labor Rota resident director Dexter Apatang, Department of Commerce Rota resident director Dean Manglona, Department of Finance Rota resident director Josepha Manglona, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Rota resident director Dennis Mendiola, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Rota resident director Magdalena Mesngon, and former Department of Public Safety Rota resident director Eusebio Manglona. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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# Opportunity Expo draws over 300 participants

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The first-ever Opportunity Expo at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe last Saturday drew over 300 participants and over 40 organizations, surpassing the expectations of both Precinct 2 Rep. Christina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and John Paul "J.P." Sablan (R-Saipan), who organized the event.

According to Rep. Christina Sablan, both their offices projected about 200 participants and about 30 organizations setting up booths at the multi-purpose but the number of organizations went over 40 and a couple more joined on Saturday itself. The expo was not merely a job fair but also showcased the many opportunities in the CNMI, including micro-finance, scholarships, and training opportunities.

The event was held from 10am to 6pm.

Rep. Christina Sablan and John Paul "J.P." Sablan thanked all the businesses, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations that participated in the expo.

They also thanked their offices and the participants who took the time to visit and see the many opportunities that the organizations had on display last Saturday.

The variety of organizations varied, from providing job offerings, training solutions, educational programs, and programs for individuals with disabilities, to resources for those who sought to improve their health, and much more.

"We've had jobs fairs and resource fairs in the past, but this is a comprehensive effort to try to bring all of those different organizations and opportunities together that we want to encourage our community to take advantage of," Rep. Christina Sablan said.

She said they support the idea of holding another expo in the future. "We're going to touch back with the different organizations that participated and do a debrief to see if this is something that they would like to see continue in the future," she said.

Participating organizations entertain community members during the first-ever Opportunity Expo held last Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The event was hosted by Precinct 2 Reps. Christina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and John Paul "J.P." Sablan (R-Saipan). MARC A. VENUS

# Torres ordered to appear at hearing on Settlement Fund's status

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has ordered the court-appointed trustee of the NMI Settlement Fund to present an update on the status of the Settlement Fund.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood directed Joyce C. H. Tang, the principal representative of the Settlement Fund trustee, the law firm Civille & Tang PLLC ,to file the status report before Sept. 19.

Tydingco-Gatewood set a hearing on the status report on Sept. 26.

The judge ordered Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and Finance Secretary David Atalig to be present at the hearing.

In Torres' absence, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios is ordered to appear at the hearing.

With the CNMI government faced with a cash flow problem that is being blamed on Super Typhoon Yutu's devastation in October 2018, the government and the NMI Settlement Fund Ttrustee have agreed to a payment plan in order for the Commonwealth pay the remaining balance of $4.8 million out of the $15.1 million in minimum annual payment due by the end of March 2019.

Last March, the CNMI government, the NMI Settlement Fund, and Betty Johnson filed in federal court an agreement about paying the second quarter minimum annual payment (MAP).

Under the 2013 settlement agreement in Johnson's class action, the CNMI government is required to pay the second quarterly MAP in the amount of $15.13 million on or before March 31, 2019.

MAP may be paid in irregular installments over the course of the fiscal year they are due, but the CNMI must pay at least 15% of the annual payment by the end of the first quarter of each fiscal year; 50% by the end of the first six months of the fiscal year; 70% by the end of the third quarter of the fiscal year; and the balance by the end of the fiscal year.

The parties said the balance on the second quarterly MAP on March 31 is $4,758,334.

The trustee and the CNMI government agreed to a payment plan in order to avoid a breach of the settlement agreement in Johnson's lawsuit and because of the exceptional circumstances brought about by Yutu.

The payment schedule would bring the government current on its MAP weekly payments and to pay the remaining balance of $4.8 million by April 30, 2019.

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CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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For more information, contact the CNMI Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018 or visit us at https://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/events/4406

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-19-014, Rev.1

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRIMARY SCREEN, GRIT & FOG REMOVAL EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the supply and delivery of Primary Screen, Grit and Fog Removal Equipment for the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant at CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

*A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.*

**One (1) original and four (5) hard copies**, must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-19-014, Rev.1, Supply and Delivery of Primary Screen, Grit and Fog Removal Equipment for the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant, Saipan"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **September 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 23, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, P.E., Senior Engineer for Water/Wastewater at email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Technician, Senior at email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

From left, Anita B. Enriquez, senior vice president of student and academic affairs; Katherine Taijeron, extension associate, both with University of Guam; Benita Manglona, chief financial officer; Jean Hongyee, Skilled Nursing Unit nursing supervisor; William Kando, chief planner, all three with Guam Memorial Hospital Authority; Diana Calvo, executive director, Catholic Social Service; Lillian Perez-Posadas, CEO, GMHA; Veronica B. Alave, co-project director and nursing instructor; Margaret Hattori-Uchima, co-project director and dean of the School of Health; Thomas W. Krise, president; Danilo C. Bilong, evaluator; Kathryn M. Wood, director of Guam/Micronesia Area Health Education Center and associate professor, all four with UOG; Kevin Hitosis, nurse practioner, Veterans Affairs Clinic; and Jonathan T.H. Nguyen, program coordinator, UOG.

# $3.75M grant aims to improve geriatric, dementia care in region

The University of Guam has received a $3.75-million grant to fill gaps in care for the elderly in Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands.

The Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program grant, awarded by the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration, will fund health care workforce development, family and caregiver training, and enhancement of the UOG nursing assistant program specifically related to Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

"The vision of the grant is to transform the current health systems and practices serving our elderly resulting in improved quality of life," said UOG School of Health dean Margaret Hattori-Uchima, co-project director of the grant along with Veronica B. Alave, a nursing instructor at the university.

The Guam State Office on Aging projects a 15% increase in Guam's elderly population from 2015 to 2020, and separate data from the World Health Organization has identified sensory organ diseases and diseases such as Alzheimer's and related dementias among the major causes of disease burden in the Western Pacific region. These circumstances contribute to the crisis facing the region, given critical shortages of health care workers, including nursing assistants, to care for the elderly, Hattori-Uchima said.

"This is one of many examples of how the University of Guam is seeking and executing grants that benefit the island and region as a whole," said UOG president Thomas W. Krise. "This is why local funding for UOG is so important — not just for academics, but also for our research and service missions as well."

The grant will be carried out until June 2024, focusing on developing learning resources and implementing training on care for those with Alzheimer's and related dementias for health care workers, caregiving family members, and students.

Community partners that will receive training include Catholic Social Service, the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority Skilled Nursing Unit, National Family Caregiver Support Program, the Guam Community College Allied Health Program, and the UOG nursing assistant program. Other community partners in the grant are the Guam/Micronesia Area Health Education Center, the State Office on Aging under the Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services Division of Senior Citizens, and the Mayors Council of Guam.

The Health Resources & Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, provides health care to people who are geographically isolated or economically or medically vulnerable. ***(PR)***

# Open house at Saipan airport

The Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport will be holding an open house meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 21, from 6pm to 8pm, at the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Building located at 1 Fadang at the Saipan airport. The open house will discuss the ongoing airport master plan study. The consultant team will also be available to answer questions.

Should you require additional information, contact Wendi L. Prater, executive assistant/project manager, or Saipan airport manager William Camacho at (670) 237-6500. ***(PR)***

**Merilyn R. Innocenti**
Box 7869 SVRB SPN 96950
(670) 788-9288
Pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| In The Matter Of The Adoption Of: FSDC (12/23/2018) Minor Child | FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION NO. 19-0317 |
| By: Merilyn R. Innocenti Petitioner(s) | **NOTICE OF HEARING** |

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 7th day of October, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom MBP, before Honorable Judge Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 22nd day of July, 2019.

/s/
By: Patrick V. Diaz,
Deputy Clerk of Court

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# Civil rights experts at Guam decolonization conference

**HAGÅTÑA, Guam**—Experts from around the Pacific and Caribbean will be in Guam next month for a conference that will focus on decolonization and human rights.

The special international conference, "*Fanhita*: Our Continuing Quests for Decolonization," will bring together a wide array of civil rights pioneers, from elected officials to scholars to community activists—from Australia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, American Samoa, the CNMI, Palau, and West Papua—to share the experiences of their community or territory in seeking self-determination or decolonization with the hopes of increasing local awareness and building a broader network of solidarity.

Among the presenters are former CNMI representative Felicidad Ogumoro and former Palau president Johnson Toribiong.

Other invited presenters Lt. Gov. Tregenza Roach of the U.S. Virgin Islands; Rex Rumakiek, secretary of the United Liberation Movement for West Papua; Sandra Creamer, chief executive officer of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance; Carlyle Corbin, former minister of State for External Affairs of the U.S. Virgin Islands; Mililani Trask, founder of Na Koa Ikaika o Ka Lāhui Hawai'i; Dan Aga, former director of the American Samoa Government Office on Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations; Leland Bettis, former director of the Guam Commission on Self-Determination; and Wilma Reveron-Collazo, Puerto Rican human rights lawyer.

"These are individuals who have made a profound impact in their respective communities on issues of human rights and decolonization. Like Guam, they come from nations that are colonized or have been colonized, and as our island continues its quest for self- determination, we hope this conference will generate a deeper interest and understanding of this process," said Melvin Won Pat-Borja, executive director of the Guam Commission on Decolonization.

In collaboration with the University of Guam, the Commission on Decolonization will host the *Fanhita* conference on Sept. 12 and 13 at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort. It will be open the public; however, those interested in attending must register with the Commission on Decolonization.

"This will be a great opportunity for our people to learn from a very diverse and influential panel. We are reaching a critical moment in our history," Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero said. "It's imperative that we have a solid foundation as we move forward because what we do next will define our future."

Panel presentations will focus on the following topics:

1) Solidarity between U.S. territories.

2) Decolonization and indigenous peoples

3) *Davis v Guam* case

4) Micronesian and wider Pacific allies

5) U.S. federal negotiations

The conference will be broadcast live on PBS Guam and recorded for rebroadcast.

This conference is made possible through funds provided by the U.S. Department of the Interior for increasing public education in Guam about self-determination and possible future political status options. It is also supported by local Guam government funds, and made possible through collaboration with the University of Guam and the three political status task forces: Statehood, Free Association, and Independence.

The co-chairs for the conference are Dr. Michael Lujan Bevacqua, assistant professor of Chamorro Studies at the University of Guam, and John Reyes, vice president of Business Intelligence at the Bank of Guam and member of the Commission on Decolonization.

For those interested in attending the conference, email fanhitaconference@gmail.com or contact the Office of the Commission on Decolonization at 475-9545. Seating is limited. ***(PR)***

# Bridge Capital donates $5K to TOC

As part of its commitment to support community organizations and projects, Bridge Capital LLC donated $5,000 to the Governor's Tournament of Champions, which was held last Aug. 10 and 11.

"In 24 years the annual Governor's Tournament of Champions has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars that benefit numerous community projects, including those that aim to raise the destination profiting the CNMI," said Jody Jordahl, vice president/chief investment officer of Bridge Capital. "We are proud to be part of the event and we look forward to next year."

"Bridge Capital's contribution goes a long way to ensure the success of this year's and previous Governor's Tournaments of Champions," said Ben Babauta, TOC tournament director. "We are grateful for the company's unwavering support over the years."

Since its inception, TOC has turned over more than $800,000 to the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to improvements like the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the former Palm Resort Saipan, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, the Governor's TOC has also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach pathway, and the beautification of the Port to Park pathway. Funds have also been donated to charitable organizations like the Commonwealth Cancer Association, and Northern Marianas Athletics. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Capital LLC donates $5,000 to the recent Governor's Tournament of Champions. From left, Eppie Marana, TOC committee member; Marie Sablan, TOC committee member; Ben Babauta, TOC tournament director; Bridge Capital's office manager Julie Ann Duenas; Amanda Ramon, TOC committee member; and Rochelle Tomokane, TOC committee member.

# Motheread/Fatheread completes largest session with CLI

The CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Program held a completion ceremony for 31 participants at the Center of Living Independently last Aug. 5.

The 31 participants who took part in the adult course facilitated by parent-trainer Celina Foreman was the program's largest class of 2019 to date.

Since June 17, Motheread/Fatheread has conducted fun, interactive activities combined with storytelling every Monday.

Motheread/Fatheread is a nationally acclaimed community-based program administered by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council. Parents and children learn to use the power of children's literature to improve their own reading skills, to explore challenging family issues, and to foster empowerment in their daily lives.

The Motheread/Fatheread Program is free for all parents and guardians.

If you love reading and story-telling and want to take part in the next free adult courses with Motheread/Fatheread, visit CNMI Motheread/Fatheread on Facebook or at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library or call program coordinators Beth Demapan and Cassandra Deleon Guerrero at 235-7319/783-7678/285-2279 or e-mail cnmimotheread@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

# CUC complies with court orders to reserve $750K in separate accounts for 2 projects

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Carter

Tenorio

Pursuant to court orders the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. was able to deposit $750,000 into separate accounts for two projects—oil infrastructure operations and maintenance and the pipeline project.

CUC counsel deputy attorney general Lillian Ada Tenorio disclosed that CUC has established an operations and maintenance fund account separate and apart from other CUC accounts, in accordance with the joint stipulation and court order.

In CUC's status report filed before the federal court, Tenorio said an initial deposit of $475,000 was made in the restricted account on Aug. 6, 2019, that is reserved for oil infrastructure operations and maintenance.

CUC has also established on a separate account for a future pipeline "smart pig" inspection by a third-party analysis in the amount of $275,000 withdrawn from the Technical Manager for Oil fund on Aug. 6, 2019, she said.

Tenorio said expenditure of the fund requires the prior approval of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The report was in response to U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter's order directing CUC and the CNMI government to provide a status update on the two projects.

In his declaration, CUC chief financial officer Greg Cruz said that, ursuant to court stipulations signed last February, CUC has established with the Bank of Guam two new accounts—the operation and maintenance account and the pipeline inspection account.

Cruz said the operation and maintenance account has a $475,000 deposit, while the pipeline inspection account has a deposit of $275,000 withdrawn from the Technical Manager for Oil fund.

CUC has agreed with the U.S. government's recommendation that CUC establish operations and maintenance programs, or O&M, to better ensure that the millions of funds CUC receives from the federal and CNMI governments for projects are properly spent.

EPA and CUC have agreed that CUC shall maintain a separate account to ensure the effective long-term operation and maintenance of new and existing oil infrastructure.

The parties have agreed that, starting last July 31, and each year after, CUC shall deposit $475,000 in the O&M account every year for 10 years.

Carter approved the agreement last February.

As for the pipeline project, Carter granted last Feb. 1 a joint request by the U.S. government and CUC to reserve $275,000 for in-line inspections of the CUC oil pipeline.

In-line inspection, also called intelligent or smart pigging, refers to an assessment of a pipeline from the interior of the pipe using an inspection tool.

The old pipeline was an aboveground pipeline that delivered fuel from the Mobil Oil facility at the Saipan port to Power Plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base.

CUC's Environmental and Engineering Management Company has built a new fuel pipeline at the same location.

# First responders get additional response training

A total of 85 first responders on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota recently learned how to respond to emergencies when the victim is a person with a disability.

The disability awareness training and emergency preparedness focus group seminar was recently held at the Northern Marianas College.

The training was at the behest of the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, or UCEDD, at NMC, in partnership with the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The two organizations were able to gather and collect information to determine emergency preparedness training needs for the CNMI. Based on the data collected, a public awareness campaign to educate the community regarding the importance of emergency preparedness will be created.

Kirsten Bamba-Rosario, an American Sign Language instructor from the Guam Community College, was also present and conducted sign language training for communicating with people who are deaf and/or hard-of-hearing. Bamba-Rosario also shared sign language used by Polynesian, Carolinian, and Chamorro peoples in the Pacific.

Participants included staff from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Public Safety, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Northern Marianas College, Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Division of Youth Services, Department of Commerce, Center for Living Independently, CNMI Division of Customs, Department of Public Works, CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Lady Diann Torres Foundation, and the Temporary Emergency Tent and Roofing Installation Support program.

Interested individuals or organizations looking for more information regarding disabilities training and opportunities to collaborate with persons with disabilities can contact Jennifer-Eileen E. Castro, UCEDD director, at 237-6801 or by e-mailing cnmi.ucedd@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

Participants of the disability awareness and emergency preparedness training pose for a photo. The training was conducted by the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Northern Marianas College in partnership with the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Department of Public Safety and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel listen to a presentation on emergency preparedness and disability training at Northern Marianas College's Rota Center that was conducted by the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at NMC in partnership with the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities.

NMC

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

## INVITATION FOR BIDS
**CUC-IFB-19-025**

### ROTA WATER CAVE ENCLOSURE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Rota Water Cave Enclosure in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of the installation of a new concrete CMU block wall enclosure, screened aluminum doors, drain pipes, fencing upgrades; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

*This project is funded by a grant from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Public Law 20-61.*

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **August 30 , 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Rota Directors Office, Sinapalo, Rota.

**One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-19-025, Rota Water Cave Enclosure"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 19, 2019**. Bid Submissions will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:15 AM (ChST) the same day. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety
company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 3, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Edgar Tuazon, Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address edgar.tuazon@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**WILLIAM B. GILMORE**
**Acting, Executive Director**

**MANNY BOYER SABLAN**
**Purchasing Administrator**

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

## INVITATION FOR BIDS
**CUC-IFB-19-031**

### SAN VICENTE WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Construction of San Vicente Water Tank Replacement Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consist of removal of existing 0.5 million gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances; one (1) additional boring at the center of the existing tank; design and construction of the new 0.75 million gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; construction of new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting; construction of new asphalt concrete access road; and installation of temporary storage tanks at the San Vicente Tank site. The project also includes installation of PSV station with flowmeter at the Dandan Tank site. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

***The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.***

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 21, 2019** at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies** of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-19-031, San Vicente Water Tank Replacement Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 9:00 AM (ChST) September 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on **August 22, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Kirztie Reyes, Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address kirztie.reyes@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**WILLIAM GILMORE**
**Acting Executive Director**

**MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.**
**Purchasing Administrator**

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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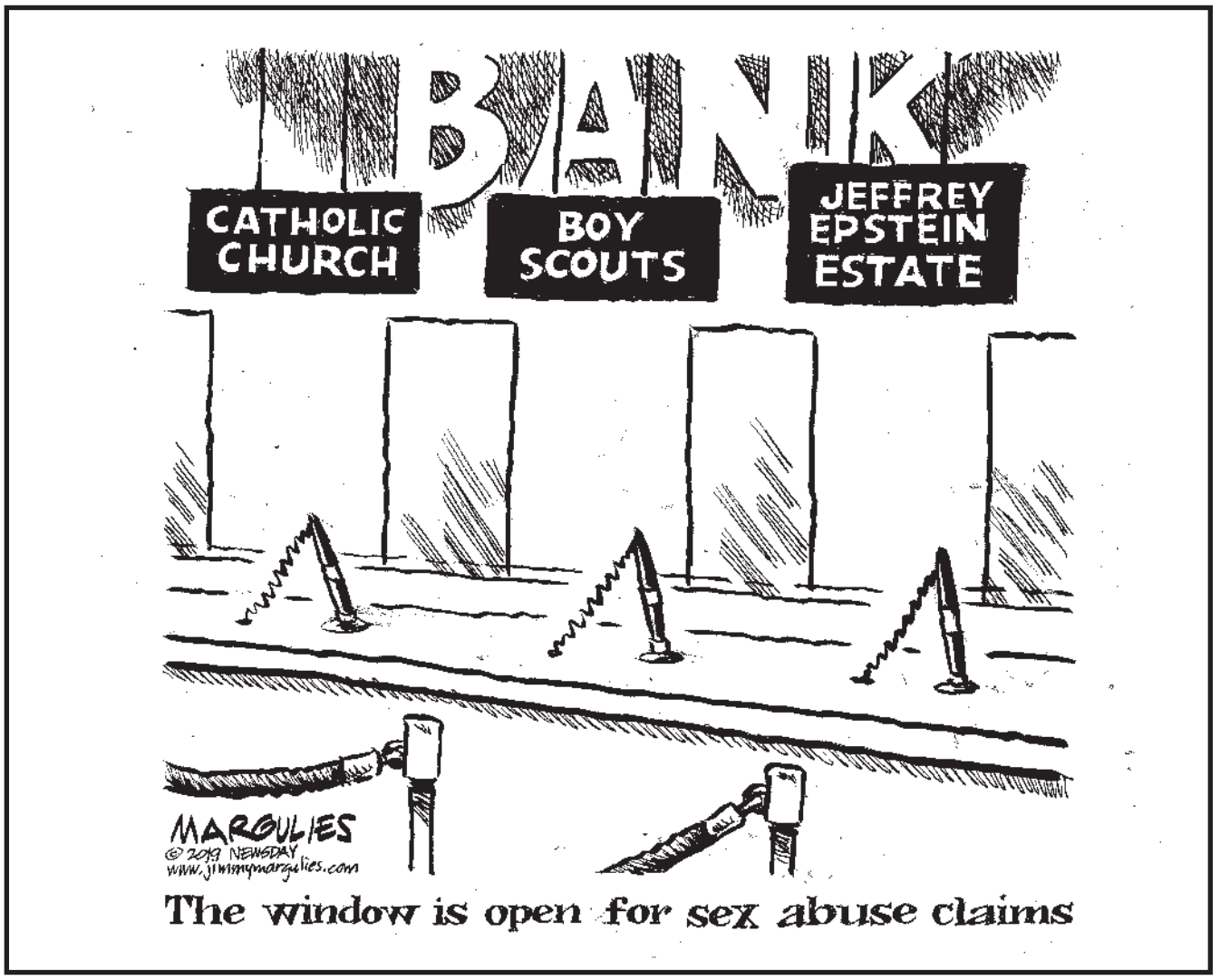


## EDITORIAL

## Cuccinelli is wrong

Now the Trump administration is trying to rewrite history—and poetry.

In an interview with National Public Radio this week, Ken Cuccinelli, acting director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, said that the storied lines on the Statue of Liberty urging the world to "give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" was an invitation to only those immigrants "who can stand on their own two feet and who will not become a public charge."

Um, no. In fact, the "huddled masses" line is part of a 14-line sonnet, "The New Colossus," that Emma Lazarus—considered the nation's first important Jewish poet—wrote in 1883 for the pedestal upon which the Statue of Liberty would eventually stand. The poem was written a year after the first Chinese Exclusion Act and the Immigration Act of 1882, the first significant efforts to limit immigration into the United States. Yes, the latter required new arrivals to show they had the means to survive in what then was a nation without safety nets, a rule that has remained on the books ever since.

Yet Lazarus' poem doesn't mention exclusions and financial requirements. Rather, she specifically refers to embracing "the wretched refuse of your teeming shore" and "the homeless, tempest-tost." Her poem says clearly and eloquently that the land of liberty should welcome immigrants from the lower economic classes—the "poor, huddled masses"—and not just those carrying purses full of gold. Lazarus, incidentally, was born in the United States but was descended from Portugese Sephardic Jews, and she was involved in helping Russian Jews settle in New York after fleeing pogroms—the very sort of displaced peoples the current White House has worked so assiduously to turn away.

Cuccinelli is a fervent immigration hardliner, an advocate of rescinding birthright citizenship, and part of an anti-immigration crew within the administration trying to turn the U.S. into a gated community—wealthy and white only, please. Yet Cuccinelli's depiction of what U.S. immigration should be flies in the face of the American dream as well as the American experience. Legions of families have stories about their ancestors who arrived with only a few bucks in their pocket and a dream of making something of themselves. Then a business got built, or a career was pursued, and roots were set into American soil, giving rise to what we are today.

Romanticized fantasy? In some cases, yes. But it happened often enough to become an inextricable part of our national sense of self. And neither Cuccinelli nor Trump can rewrite that.

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## Police standoff is an opportunity to turn the tide on gun control

Wednesday's prolonged shootout in North Philadelphia that injured six police officers may be the opportunity to turn the tide on gun control.

A narcotics warrant turned into a 7 {-hour standoff between police and Maurice Hill, who was barricad-

*See MEALS on Next Page*

## Maybe liberty isn't a lost cause in China

**By JONAH GOLDBERG**
Tribune News Service

*Jonah Goldberg's latest book,* Suicide of the West, *is now available wherever books are sold. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by e-mail at goldbergcolumn@gmail.com, or via Twitter @JonahNRO.*

Here's a crazy idea: Maybe the forces of liberty will win.

Sadly, few people are rooting for liberty these days, and even among those who are, there's a dismaying amount of pessimism about its prospects.

Consider China.

There's a new bipartisan consensus these days: The "elites" made a "bad bet" on China.

We were told by "elites" that giving China access to the global marketplace would deliver huge economic benefits for America. Simultaneously, economic liberalization in China would lead to political liberalization. After all, the history of democratization usually begins with growing prosperity. As the middle class gets richer, it demands rights and protections once enjoyed only by aristocrats—i.e. political representation and the rule of law. This is how liberal democracy emerged in England and Holland in the 16th and 17th centuries, and in much of the rest of the free world since then. The same will happen in China, policymakers said. And since democratic societies tend not to go to war with each other, American and global security will improve.

And now, today's elites insist that it was all false.

While it's true that the benefits were oversold and the costs minimized, it's not clear to me that any of these claims are settled.

On the economic front, plenty of studies show that Americans benefitted from increased trade with China. Consumer goods got cheaper, particularly for lower-income Americans. Yes, America lost some manufacturing jobs to China—though it almost certainly lost more to robots. But competition with China also yielded more hiring of Americans in non-manufacturing jobs, a much larger part of our economy. Perhaps this painful transition was necessary and inevitable. (For those interested, Duke Law School's Scott Lincicome authored an excellent survey of the economic literature at the Bulwark in January.)

In short, the economic argument is a mixed bag. Though the fact that hundreds of millions of Chinese people were lifted out of abject poverty—by markets—is a moral victory for humanity and an important demonstration of the fact that police states alone don't make life better for the policed.

Which brings us to freedom. Beijing remains stubbornly—and by some measures, increasingly—authoritarian. It's not as bad as when Chairman Mao killed some 60 million of his own people, but China's technologically advanced police state is still plenty grotesque.

Why? A scholar who spent years in China once explained to me that the government—i.e., the Communist Party—is often more afraid of the people than the people are of it. The Communist Party understands the history of democratization as well as anyone. It's just betting that artificial intelligence and facial recognition will keep its aristocrats in power in ways that the bayonets and gunpowder of yesteryear could not.

China is in a nationalist phase, just as Germany, France, Italy and other former or would-be Great Powers were on their way to democracy. That poses very real dangers to the global order in the same way the nationalist movements of the 19th and 20th centuries did. Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm wanted what he called a "place in the sun" for the German empire, and so did Adolf Hitler. Chinese leader Xi Jinping wants it, too.

Whether it was a young political scientist named Woodrow Wilson hailing Otto von Bismarck's authoritarian Prussia as the most "admirable system ...and most nearly perfected" in the world, or Lincoln Steffens claiming upon his return from Soviet Russia that he'd "seen the future, and it works," or New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman wishing that America could learn from China's "one party authoritarianism," virtually every time nationalist and authoritarian regimes seize the reins, countless Western intellectuals became convinced that a better, more "efficient" model of government had been created.

As George Orwell observed, this sort of thinking amounts to power-worship, and this mindset leads people to think that current trends will only continue in a straight line into the future.

But that's not how the last three centuries have gone. Power-hungry experts love to tell us freedom has had its day, yet liberty keeps winning. The freedom fighters in 2019 Hong Kong may meet the same fate that the protestors in Tiananmen Square did in 1989. But that doesn't mean they'll be remembered as victims of a lost cause. Rather, they might be remembered as proof that liberty can win in the long run, when people fight for it.

The great lie about China wasn't that good things would come from its enrichment, but that the good things would be instantaneous—and easy. Liberty is never easy. It takes work.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# First, Ken Cuccinelli needs a history lesson

**By MARY C. CURTIS**
CQ-Roll Call

*Mary C. Curtis has worked at* The New York Times, The Baltimore Sun, The Charlotte Observer, *as national correspondent for* Politics Daily, *and is a senior facilitator with The OpEd Project. Follow her on Twitter @ mcurtisnc3.*

It happened like clockwork. Every few weeks, especially in the winter months, when snowbirds traveled to my then-home in Tucson, Ariz., from parts north that included Michigan and Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois, a letter to the editor would turn up at the paper where I worked. With slight changes, it would go something like: "I stopped in a store and overheard some people speaking Spanish. Why don't they speak English?"

It took a little bit of time and a lot of convincing to explain that the families of many of these folks had been on the land the new arrivals so expansively and immediately claimed for generations, in the state since before it was a state, which Arizona didn't become until 1912. It also has the greatest percentage of its acreage designated as Indian tribal land in the United States. And would it hurt you to know a word or two of Spanish?

Those are facts I was eager to learn—often from those long-timers—when I moved from the East Coast, many miles and a world away. Better late than never.

I thought of those brief history lessons when I read the seething words left behind, it is believed, by the young man accused of driving hundreds of miles to El Paso to murder "Mexicans," some of them folks whose ancestors probably had been in Texas under many flags before it was the state of Texas. The sprawling suburban house thought to have been his home for a time looks as though it could be a suburban house in Anywhere, USA, not some bastion of Texas culture. His life goal, as shared on a LinkedIn profile believed to be his, said: "I'm not really motivated to do anything more than what's necessary to get by."

(The lessons of Toni Morrison: Words matter, now more than ever )

Was he lazy, a pejorative usually reserved for black and brown people doing the work since America's founding, but instead fitting those like the accused shooter, resentful for not automatically winning the prize? Apparently, he spent too much energy and time brooding about his expectations as a young, white man, angry that he might be losing the privilege of getting ahead while doing not much of anything, not knowing much of anything.

Despite the hopes of older generations that young people growing up in a diverse society would experience enough to save the country from its history and itself, the youth of the killers and accused from Charleston, South Carolina, to El Paso poke a hole in that theory.

In America, ignorance is obviously dangerous when it leads to twisted ideologies and domestic terrorism schemes.

But short of that ultimate evil, not knowing much about many things can also translate into indifference, hostility and policies that do harm to the people and the idea of America.

Lack of awareness is certainly not limited to a certain region or age or person. I've been schooled by The New York Times' series of "Overlooked" obituaries, stories of the pioneers and innovators who happened to be women and minorities, icons whose life's work and passing received no notice in their times from the paper that helps to write history.

There are bound to be consequences when so many are content with knowing little more than what's necessary to get by. "The stories we tell become the world we live in," goes the saying I repeat and sincerely mean when leading seminars for The OpEd Project.

Right now we are seeing what happens when a blinkered view of history takes hold, in a chipping away of the rights of legal immigrants, new policies courtesy of the Trump administration, despite its earlier insistence that illegal immigration was the problem.

Ken Cuccinelli, acting director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, has been criticized for tweaking Emma Lazarus' poem on the base of the Statue of Liberty to "give me your tired and your poor who can stand on their own two feet and who will not become a public charge," and again when he interpreted that hopeful invitation as "referring back to people coming from Europe where they had class-based societies, where people were considered wretched if they weren't in the right class."

(The Baltimore that raised me is America too )

Cuccinelli conveniently forgot the history that not too many of those arriving at Ellis Island toted sacks of cash or spoke perfect and unaccented English, and that his own ancestors who sought opportunity in America might not pass muster.

While most noncitizens do not qualify for public benefits, the rules announced by Cuccinelli would affect the present and future status of those who have already cleared initial hurdles to becoming citizens. They could expand the types of benefits that could potentially disqualify an applicant to include prior use of Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamps) and housing assistance. A chilling effect might keep immigrants and even U.S. citizens from applying for benefits or cause them to withdraw from programs for themselves and their families.

Will all those politicians who regale crowds with stories of hard-working ancestors who succeeded with grit—and government programs such as the G.I. Bill and Social Security—at least recognize the hypocrisy?

Doubtful.

Why not just rewrite a poem?

# TOAST: Old Age Poems

**LITERARY NOOK**

**By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.*

On Aug. 19, 1988, then-President Ronald Reagan signed Proclamation 5847, declaring Aug. 21 as National Senior Citizen's Day. This date was proclaimed World Senior Citizen's Day by the United Nations in 1990.

To mark the occasion, I have here a new series of sonnets with aging as the central theme. I call it "T.O.A.S.T." or "Timeworn Old Age Senior Tales" for Senior Citizen's Day.

With this, I move away from my "Food For Thought" series of sonnets. It is now toast. A few may surface from time to time. I'll present a few slices or sonnets at a time (kind of as Food for Thought, as a matter of fact) to go with your coffee, iced tea, or some other beverage as you peruse the newspaper.

I am approaching 70 next month and have noticed substantial short-term memory loss and other signs of senile dementia moving into my gray matter. I have written several poems about various aspects of the aging process in the past few months and will continue to do so now in the autumn of my years. As I approach the witless winter of my life, please enjoy the poems as you and I both reflect on some of the halcyon highlights, humorous, and hapless aspects of growing old.

I vaguely recall a bad guy in some cowboy Western movie (or was it a murder mystery?), who looked at his victim and said, "You are toast." Here is another kind of T.O.A.S.T. that you can use as a "toast" to Father Time as we all proceed in time's ultimate direction.

**Senior Citizen Time Space Curvature Trilogy No. 1**
*(So Come Taste Sonnet Connolly Tales Submitted Comments Today)*

**Senior Moments Sour and Sweet**
"Sweet moments I live in memory still I can't forget when you were so close to me."
—Hughes/Thompson - 1947)

Ah yes those Senior moments don't tend to linger
that momentary pause when you just can't think of
the rest of what you were going to say - a real zinger
maybe it will come back as random thoughts sink.
Maybe some Senior moments will come and disappear
as you stumble through the finality of the aging process
Maybe memory is coming back next week next month
next year but its coming with less and less success.
Oh now you remember as you eat that ice cream cone
how hot it was when you went to visit some friends
talking eye to eye with people before you had a cell phone
or how that story began or what happens when it ends.
So senior moments come and go some sour some sweet
I hope I remember your name the next time we meet.

# POLICE

*From Page 10*

ed in a Tioga rowhouse with a hand gun and an AR-15. None of the officers' injuries were life-threatening. Around midnight, the gunman surrendered, a testament to the professionalism of the Philadelphia Police Department.

Once again, the availability of firearms made a bad situation worse, and only by miracle, not deadly.

On Thursday, Mayor Jim Kenney stood next to Police Commissioner Richard Ross and other officials, and made a plea to Harrisburg: Help us protect our police officers by enacting gun control measures.

The research is absolutely on Mayor Kenney's side. States that have a higher gun ownership rate have more fatal shootings of law enforcement officers—and of civilians by law enforcement officers. States that have stronger gun control have fewer fatal shootings of police officers.

So what should we expect to see from the General Assembly, which has a history both of inaction and of preempting cities from passing their own laws? Not much, despite the fact that a majority of Pennsylvania voters and a majority of gun owners support measures such as universal background checks and banning assault weapons.

The growing number of citizens killed in mass shootings haven't led to action. To turn the tide, there needs to be a political cost to inaction. One of the most coveted endorsements in Pennsylvania politics is of police unions. Throughout the state, legislators who stand as barriers to gun control have enjoyed the support of many chapters of the Fraternal Order of the Police. It is time for police unions to lead the way on gun control with a clear line: no gun control, no endorsement.

In a news conference on Wednesday, the president of the FOP Lodge 5, John McNesby, said that there are too many guns on the street. Lodge 5 has been on the record in support of gun control bills and say they are open to review proposals. But they and other police and law enforcement unions have big muscles—and now is the time to flex them. Gun control is a police safety issue.

One law enforcement officer sounded a more dissonant note the day after the shooting.

U.S. Attorney William McSwain released a statement essentially blaming District Attorney Larry Krasner for the shooting. His claims are nonsensical. McSwain, who is not an elected official but was appointed by President Donald Trump, used a tragedy and a traumatic moment for the city for a petty internecine battle.

Gun violence in Philadelphia is an epidemic and demands unity, attention, and action. Every stakeholder in the city—from the police union to the mayor and DA and even the U.S. attorney—needs to send a unified message to Harrisburg: The safety of our people, and our police, is not negotiable.

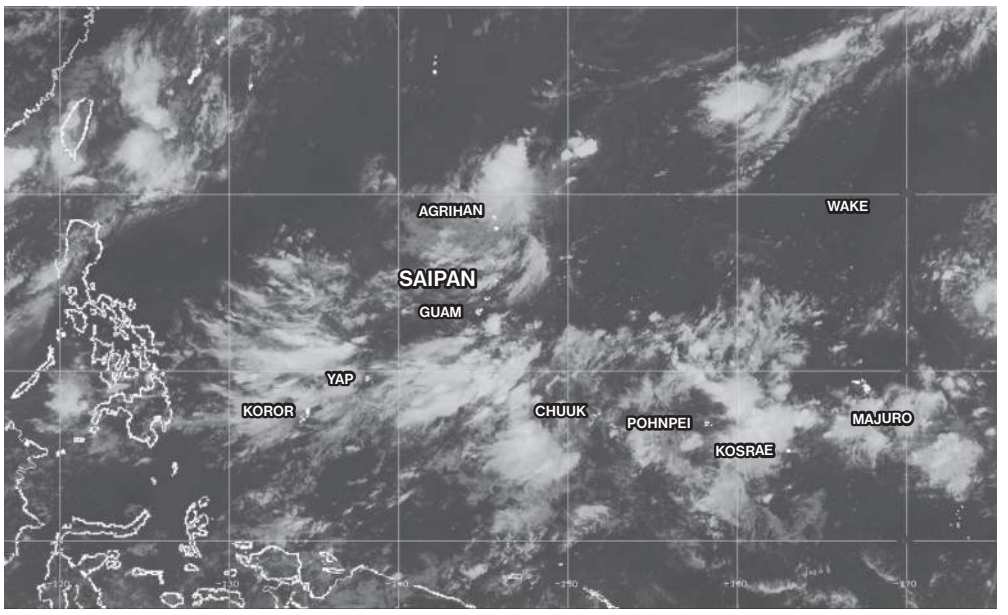
(c)2019 The Philadelphia Inquirer

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. |
| 89° 78° | 89° 79° | 89° 79° | 88° 78° | 88° 78° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 6:55 AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2019**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen across the area moving to the northwest. Some parts of Guam have seen around an inch of rain since sunset yesterday. The circulation near Guam has nudged westward slightly and is now centered near 12N144E with a developing monsoon trough extending through it from the Philippine Sea to the Marshall Islands. Another circulation is found well to the northeast near 23N153E.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 88° / 80° |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 85° / 77° |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 88° / 80° |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 86° / 80° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 86° / 78° |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 86° / 78° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 85° / 81° |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | 57° / 46° |
| Beijing | Mostly Cloudy | 99° / 73° |
| Hong Kong | Thunderstorms | 88° / 82° |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 89° / 76° |
| London | Mostly Cloudy | 77° / 64° |
| Los Angeles | Mostly Sunny | 76° / 63° |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 93° / 82° |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy | 61° / 41° |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | 88° / 80° |
| New York | Thunderstorms | 84° / 71° |
| Osaka | Mostly Sunny | 84° / 70° |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 70° |
| Busan | Partly Cloudy | 77° / 64° |
| Rome | Sunny | 93° / 70° |
| Salem | Thunderstorms | 93° / 73° |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | 68° / 53° |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | 84° / 66° |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | 81° / 66° |
| Washington, DC | Thunderstorms | 92° / 74° |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 4:04 AM | LOW TIDE | 0.97 |
| 9:21 AM | HIGH TIDE | 1.83 |
| 4:08 PM | LOW TIDE | 0.41 |
| 10:27 PM | HIGH TIDE | 1.87 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:02 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Sunday | 6:02 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Monday | 6:02 AM | 6:38 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:03 AM | 6:37 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:03 AM | 6:37 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | - | 7:10 AM | 7:57 PM |
| Sunday | - | 7:57 AM | 8:34 PM |
| Monday | - | 8:44 AM | 9:10 PM |
| Tuesday | - | 9:30 AM | 9:46 PM |
| Wednesday | - | 10:17 AM | 10:23 PM |

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 15, 2019

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA117 | 9:15am | 10:00am | Daily |
| UA105 | 6:25pm | 7:05pm | 2, 4 |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3451 | 3:30am | 6:30am | 4 |
| 7C3451 | 3:10am | 6:10am | 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TW308 | 1:35am | 5:20am | Daily |
| OZ626 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:45am | 8:35am | 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 5:00am | 8:30am | 4 |
| 7C3403 | 5:00am | 8:50am | 6 |
| 7C3401 | 4:10pm | 7:45pm | 4, 7 |
| 7C3401 | 4:10pm | 8:10pm | 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:50am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD396 | 7:30am | 12:05pm | 1 |
| JD396 | 4:50pm | 7:55pm | 4 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:30am | 7:50am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:00am | 3, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA117/183 | 9:15am | 8:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA117/183 | 9:15am | 9:10pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA117/193 | 9:15am | 10:40pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HX077 | 2:00am | 5:00am | 1, 4 |
| OZ626/721 | 2:20am | 11:40am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UO43 | 5:35am | 8:25am | 1 |
| UO43 | 5:50am | 8:40am | 3, 5, 7 |
| UA117/159 | 9:15am | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA174 | 7:30am | 8:15am | Daily |
| UA104 | 4:50pm | 5:31pm | 2, 4 |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3452 | 9:05pm | 2:10am+1 | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3452 | 9:35pm | 2:30am+1 | 3 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:10pm | Daily |
| TW307 | 7:00pm | 12:35am+1 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| TW307 | 7:05pm | 12:35am+1 | 1 |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ625 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| 7C3404 | 10:40pm | 4:10am+1 | 3, 5 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:30pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD395 | 8:05am | 3:30pm | 4 |
| JD395 | 8:50pm | 5:00am+1 | 7 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 8:10pm | 3:10am+1 | 1, 5 |

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:50pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA192/174 | 9:45pm | 8:12am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |
| UA184/174 | 10:25pm | 8:12am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/174 | 11:30pm | 8:12am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| HX076 | 5:20pm | 00:30am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UO42 | 6:25pm | 1:20am+1 | 7 |
| UO42 | 9:25pm | 4:20am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |
| UA116/174 | 10:45pm | 8:12am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

**SAIPAN TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 7:30AM | 8:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:30AM | 12:00PM | Daily |
| 1303 | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 8:15AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 1:45PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3103 | 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO GUAM**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:15PM | 12:45PM | Daily |

**GUAM TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 1:00PM | 1:30PM | Daily |

**SAIPAN TO TINIAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 1202 | 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00PM | 12:15PM | Daily |
| 1207 | 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 1208 | 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 1209 | 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 1210 | 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 1211 | 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 1212 | 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

**TINIAN TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2102 | 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 2103 | 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 2104 | 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 2105 | 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 2106 | 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 2107 | 12:30PM | 12:45PM | Daily |
| 2108 | 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2109 | 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 2110 | 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 2111 | 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 2112 | 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 2113 | 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

# Beer named for Pacific island nuke test site draws criticism

**HAGATNA, Guam** (AP)—A Texas-based company is facing criticism for naming a beer after the location of nuclear tests that resulted in the contamination of a Pacific island chain, a report said.

Manhattan Project Beer Company is under scrutiny by Marshall Islanders who were exposed to high levels of radiation by U.S. government research from 1946 to 1958, *The Pacific Daily News* reported Thursday.

The government and residents of the Republic of the Marshall Islands have objected to the company's beer named Bikini Atoll, an area of the island chain that remains uninhabitable.

The name is insensitive to people still dealing with the impacts of radiation decades later, islanders said.

The company has several beers with nuclear-themed names including Half-life, Plutonium-239, Particles Collide, and 10 Nanoseconds.

"Our beer named Bikini Atoll was not created to mock or trivialize the nuclear testing that took place in the Marshall Islands," the company said in a social media post. The company is "creating awareness of the wider impacts and implications" of U.S. nuclear research programs, the statement said.

In this May 21, 1956, file photo, the fireball of a hydrogen bomb lights the Pacific sky a few seconds after the bomb was released over Bikini Atoll. AP

The company's website does not mention nuclear testing in a description of Bikini Atoll beer.

Following what it described as "significant harassment and death threats" the company said it will take no further action or make additional statements.

Marshall Islands Health and Human Services Secretary Jack Niedenthal wrote a letter to Manhattan Project Beer co-founder Misty Sanford Thursday saying she should consider the suffering caused by the nuclear testing.

"The bottom line is your product makes fun of a horrific situation here in the Marshall Islands—a situation that I promise you is still ongoing—to make money for your company," Niedenthal wrote. "This is unacceptable to us."

The beer is not the first commercial product named after the atoll.

In 1946, French designer Louise Reard named his two-piece swimsuit the bikini, four days after the U.S. detonated the first bomb at the atoll in 1946. The popular animated television series "SpongeBob SquarePants" was set in "Bikini Bottom."

Many people in the Marshall Islands don't know about either connection.

Ariana Tibon, education and public awareness coordinator for the National Nuclear Commission, told The Associated Press that no one wears bikinis in the Marshall Islands where it goes against customs and culture to show too much skin. She said most people wear basketball shorts and a T-shirt to the beach.

Rachel Hoffman, a Marshallese woman who grew up in Washington state, said she was hurt and offended to learn the cartoon's mutated marine creatures represented Bikini when Marshallese women exposed to the radiation had children with birth defects or were unable to bear children.

Various the commercial uses of Bikini were "really depressing," Hoffman told the AP. But she said she wants to "utilize our voices and make it known to the public that this is wrong."

## Guam govt OK'd to sell lots to pay off $3.7M in taxes

**TAMUNING, Guam**—In a judgment on Wednesday last week, the federal court entered a $3.7-million judgment in favor of the Guam government, allowing the government to sell of an individual's properties to collect on owed taxes.

The case went to trial in mid-July on the issue of a defendant's failure to pay taxes from 1999 through 2002. The judgement authorizes the Guam government to foreclose on six properties owned by the defendant, with 50% of the proceeds to pay the owed taxes.

"This is not just a paper judgment," said deputy attorney general Kenneth Orcutt. "There are actual assets that the [Guam] government will use to satisfy the debt owed by the taxpayer to the people of Guam."

"I congratulate the work of the Attorney General's Office in pursuing this case to the end. We all must respect our responsibility to pay taxes," said Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. "Our tax enforcement team, under the leadership of DRT director Dafne Shimizu, put in countless hours to ensure that the government was prepared for this case. I'm grateful for their hard work and their continued diligence in pursuing the collection of taxes."

DRT's Tax Enforcement Team consists of deputy tax commissioner Paul Pablo, Taxpayer Service administrator Lawrence Terlaje, Jean Flores, Katrina Charfauros, Judith Rios, Annie Duenas, and Maria Celino.

Orcutt, assistant attorney general Happy Rons, and paralegal Brenda Aguon handled the matter for the Office of the Attorney General. ***(PR)***

# Reservists gain specialized skills

By HELEN BROWN
COMMANDER TASK FORCE 75

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—Reserve sailors, assigned to Navy Expeditionary Forces Command Pacific, arrived at Naval Base Guam to conduct annual training alongside their active duty counterparts last Aug. 12.

This training, being fulfilled by more than half of the reserve sailors assigned to NEFCPAC, was scheduled to include tent assembly, as well as simulated central command headquarters assembly, watch standing and proper communication procedures, and learning how to use various types of equipment.

"This exercise is involving real-world potential events and we're doing a practice run as to how we would respond to it with our reservists and our active duty when they're all brought together," said Master Chief Logistics Specialist Deborah Mack, the command senior enlisted leader for Detachment Guam. "In order to execute an exercise or event, a lot of people are required so that's why the reserves assigned to NEFCPAC are so important because we bring the additional manpower that's required to execute an event or an exercise."

Annual training and drill requirements of the reservists were being fulfilled by this integrated training which has increased effective capability for potential future evolutions.

Sailors attached to Navy Expeditionary Forces Command Pacific, and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 set up a tent in preparation for an integrated training evolution. U.S. NAVY/MCS2 HELEN BROWN

"Given the fact that some of our folks are new, getting them to be more efficient in their battle watch capabilities, understanding who is supporting NEFCPAC and what we do in this area of responsibility is going to be important," said Lt. Cmdr. Ivan Cavenall, NEFCPAC's Reserve Guam Detachment officer-in-charge. "If you look across the days spectrum in the news there's a lot going on in this region, so we have to be prepared to step in and step up at any given time."

According to Mack, reserve sailors are an important part of the U.S. Navy but they don't get very many real-world experiences compared to their active-duty counterparts. This training was vital to maintaining effective lines of communication and learning how to efficiently work as a team to achieve the goal of being on point and always ready for any situation.

"I think this exercise in Guam is important for new and upcoming sailors, because this is something that you don't see every day, working with this type of element and expeditionary group," said Utilitiesman 1st Class Malcom Thompson, a native of Hillsboro, North Carolina, who is assigned to NEFCPAC's Reserve Guam Detachment unit. "This training is very important because we're setting up a command center, a control center, someplace where the higher ups can go and discuss our next strategic plan and what's right for the Navy."

Since NEFCPAC's creation in January 2015, expeditionary forces in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands region have become completely integrated into the seventh fleet combat-readiness scheme and have built and maintained multinational partnerships that have been providing regional stability and security for more than seventy years.

As an organization, NEFCPAC executes operational command and control of assigned and attached Navy Expeditionary Combat Forces in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations and serves as the core Navy battle staff for crisis response and major combat operations. They plan and execute coastal riverine, explosive ordnance disposal, diving operations, construction and Navy expeditionary logistics operations.

NEFCPAC is capable of providing the fleet diverse warfighting capabilities such as coastal riverine support, explosive ordnance disposal, diving, salvage and construction capabilities, as well as expeditionary intelligence and logistics in near-shore waters, littoral regions and inland areas.

# Business

SAIPAN-GUAM ROUTE

# United announces new Saturday evening flight

United Airlines announced that effective Dec. 7, 2019, it will add a new Saipan (SPN) to Guam (GUM) evening flight that will operate on Saturday evenings at 6:20pm. The inbound flight from Guam to Saipan will leave Guam at 4:45pm and arrive in Saipan at 5:26pm. The new Saturday flights are available until March 28, 2020. Tickets are now available for purchase.

» **Increases flight frequency to 10 times-weekly to meet demands for peak winter travel**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

United Airlines will add a new Saipan to Guam evening flight that will operate on Saturday evenings at 6:20pm effective Dec. 7, 2019.

United currently operates nine times-weekly Boeing 737-700/800 jet service between Saipan and Guam and offers seats in United Business class and United Economy class. The additional flight will add more than 250 seats per week between the two islands. United offers daily morning service and two evening flights on Tuesday and Thursday to accommodate day travelers and provide more convenient connections to Hawaii, Japan and the U.S. mainland.

"United continues to look for ways to better serve its customers in the region and those who travel frequently between Saipan and Guam. We understand the importance of this lifeline between the islands," said Sam Shinohara, United Managing director for Airport Operations for Asia/Pacific. "The addition of the Saturday evening service will offer residents and visitors more choices for travel via the comfort of a Boeing 737 jet aircraft. We will continue to monitor the market and adjust its seat capacity to meet travel demand."

In 2019, United is focusing more than ever on its commitment to its customers, looking at every aspect of its business to ensure that the carrier keeps customers' best interests at the heart of its service. In addition to today's announcement, United recently announced that luxury skincare line Sunday Riley will make products exclusively for United customers to experience in amenity kits, released a re-imagined version of the most downloaded app in the airline industry, introduced ConnectionSaver, a new tool dedicated to improving the experience for customers connecting from one United flight to the next and made DIRECTV free for every passenger on 211 aircraft, offering more than 100 channels on seat back monitors on more than 30,000 seats.

United's shared purpose is "Connecting People. Uniting the World." We are more focused than ever on our commitment to customers through a series of innovations and improvements designed to help build a great experience: Every customer. Every flight. Every day. Together, United Airlines and United Express operate approximately 4,900 flights a day to 356 airports across five continents. In 2018, United and United Express operated more than 1.7 million flights carrying more than 158 million customers. United is proud to have the world's most comprehensive route network, including U.S. mainland hubs in Chicago, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, New York/Newark, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. United operates 783 mainline aircraft and the airline's United Express carriers operate 561 regional aircraft. United is a founding member of Star Alliance, which provides service to 193 countries via 28-member airlines. For more information, visit united.com, follow @United on Twitter and Instagram or connect on Facebook. The common stock of United's parent, United Airlines Holdings, Inc., is traded on the Nasdaq under the symbol "UAL." ***(PR)***

**Saipan (SPN) - Guam (GUM) Schedule (Effective Dec. 7, 2019)**

| Airport | Flight No. | Departure Time | Arrival Time | Frequency | Aircraft |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Saipan - Guam | UA117 | 9:15am | 9:56am | Daily | B737-700/800 |
| | UA156 | 6:20pm | 7pm | Tues. & Thurs. | |
| | UA156 (new) | 6:20pm | 7pm | Saturdays (beginning Dec. 7) | |
| Guam - Saipan | UA174 | 7:30am | 8:12am | Daily | B737-700/800 |
| | UA112 | 4:45pm | 5:26pm | Tues. & Thurs. | |
| | UA112 (new) | 4:45pm | 5:26pm | Saturdays (beginning Dec. 7) | |

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Customs and Border Protection outage snarls major airports

**DALLAS** (AP)—Travelers flying into the United States on Friday ran into long lines at major airports nationwide because of a temporary computer outage that affected the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency. Airports warned travelers — both Americans returning home and foreign visitors — of delays, and some travelers tweeted photos and videos of huge lines. A CBP spokeswoman said the systems were running again by early evening on the East Coast. The agency didn't precisely describe the breakdown, but the spokeswoman said there was "no indication of any nefarious activity." She said officers were able to access security-related databases and maintain security standards while screening people manually. Rebekah Tromble, an associate professor at George Washington University, tweeted a video clip in which she panned over the arrival hall at Dulles International Airport in northern Virginia. She estimated there were at least 5,000 people packed into the hall. Tromble was asked if she could see whether customs agents were screening people manually. "It's not clear from my vantage point. I'm still too far back in line," she answered. Airports in Los Angeles, Dallas-Fort Worth, New York and elsewhere notified travelers of potential delays at the beginning of one of the last weekends of the summer vacation season.

### Leader of largest US organic food fraud gets 10-year term

**CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa** (AP)—A judge on Friday sentenced the mastermind of the largest known organic food fraud scheme in U.S. history to 10 years in prison, saying he cheated thousands of customers into buying products they didn't want. U.S. District Judge C.J. Williams said Randy Constant orchestrated a massive fraud that did "extreme and incalculable damage" to consumers and shook public confidence in the nation's organic food industry. Williams said that, between 2010 and 2017, consumers nationwide were fooled into paying extra to buy products ranging from eggs to steak that they believed were better for the environment and their own health. Instead, they unwittingly purchased food that relied on farming practices, including the use of chemical pesticides to grow crops, that they opposed. "Thousands upon thousands of consumers paid for products they did not get and paid for products they did not want," Williams said. "This has caused incalculable damage to the confidence the American public has in organic products." Williams said the scam harmed other organic farmers who were playing by the rules but could not compete with the low prices offered by Constant's Iowa-based grain brokerage, and middlemen who unknowingly purchased and marketed tainted organic grain.

# Signs of recession worry Trump ahead of 2020

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Donald Trump is warning of an economic crash if he loses reelection, arguing that even voters who personally dislike him should base their ballots on the nation's strong growth and low unemployment rate.

But privately, Trump is growing increasingly worried the economy won't look so good come Election Day.

The financial markets signaled the possibility of a U.S. recession this week, sending a jolt of anxiety to investors, companies and consumers. That's on top of concerns over Trump's plans to impose punishing tariffs on goods from China and word from the United Kingdom and Germany that their economies are shrinking.

Though a pre-election recession here is far from certain, a downturn would be a devastating blow to the president, who has made a strong economy his central argument for a second term. Trump advisers fear a weakened economy would hurt him with moderate Republican and independent voters who have been willing to give him a pass on some his incendiary policies and rhetoric. And White House economic advisers see few options for reversing course should the economy start to slip.

Trump has taken to blaming others for the recession fears, mostly the Federal Reserve, which he is pushing for further interest rate cuts. Yet much of the uncertainty in the markets stems from his own escalation of a trade war with China, as well as weakened economies in key countries around the world.

Some of Trump's closest advisers have urged him to lower the temperature of the trade dispute, fearing that further tariffs would only hurt American consumers and rattle the markets further. The president blinked once this week, delaying a set of tariffs in an effort to save Christmas sales.

Aides acknowledge it is unclear what steps the White House could take to stop a downturn. Trump's 2017 tax cut proved so politically unpopular that many Republicans ran away from it during last year's midterms. And a new stimulus spending program could spark intraparty fighting over big deficits.

The hope among administration officials is that a mix of wage gains and consumer spending will power growth through 2020. Yet Trump knows his own survival hinges on voters believing that he alone can prolong the economy's decade-plus expansion.

"You have no choice but to vote for me because your 401(k), everything is going to be down the tubes," the president said at a Thursday rally in New Hampshire. "Whether you love me or hate me, you've got to vote for me."

Trump has spent much of the week at his New Jersey golf club, many of his mornings on the links, his afternoons watching cable television and his evenings calling confidants and business executives to get their take on the market's volatility.

# Nation

# Doctors say new rule will mean sicker immigrants

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Diabetics skipping regular checkups. Young asthmatics not getting preventive care. A surge in expensive emergency room visits.

Doctors and public health experts warn of poor health and rising costs they say will come from sweeping Trump administration changes that would deny green cards to many immigrants who use Medicaid, as well as food stamps and other forms of public assistance. Some advocates say they're already seeing the fallout even before the complex 837-page rule takes effect in October.

President Donald Trump's administration trumpeted its aggressive approach this past week as a way to keep only self-sufficient immigrants in the country, but health experts argue it could force potentially millions of low-income migrants to choose between needed services and their bid to stay legally in the U.S.

"People are going to be sicker. They're not going to go get health care, or not until they have to go to an emergency room," said Lisa David, president and CEO of Public Health Solutions, New York's largest public health organization. "It's going to cost the system a lot of money."

Immigrants who want permanent legal status, commonly called a green card, have long been required to prove they won't be "a public charge." The Trump administration announced Monday that would redefine the term to mean those who are "more likely than not" to receive public benefits over a certain period. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will also now consider other factors, including income, education and English proficiency.

"We want to see people coming to this country who are self-sufficient," said Ken Cuccinelli, the agency's acting director. "That's a core principle of the American dream. It's deeply embedded in our history, and particularly our history related to legal immigration."

Two California counties and attorneys general in 13 states sued, saying the changes will increase public health risks.

There are signs that is already happening in cities including Chicago, Detroit and New York, immigrant advocates say.

Within hours of the announcement, a Minnesota immigration attorney said she received a flurry of calls from worried clients about whether to leave Medicaid. A Detroit nonprofit helping Latinos and immigrants with social services said its usually jam-packed lobby was empty the day after the rules were unveiled. New York's largest public health organization, Public Health Solutions, which serves a large immigrant population, reported a 20% drop in food stamps enrollment since the rule was first proposed in the fall.

There is precedent for such a chilling effect.

After 1996 welfare and immigration changes that limited public assistance for some immigrants, the use of benefits dropped steeply among U.S. citizen children and refugees, groups who were still eligible. Studies based on data following that change showed people disenrolled from Medicaid at rates ranging from 15% to 35%, according to Harvard University's François-Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights. And, it found, this came at a high cost: Asthma-related school absences in 1996 led to $719 million in lost parental productivity.

Federico Mason, who emigrated from Mexico over two decades ago, said he is worried about the new criteria because he is low-income and doesn't speak English well. The Chicago resident said he has no immediate plans to remove his 8- and 15-year-old sons, who are U.S. citizens, from Medicaid, but the new rule has made him more fearful about providing for his family and about applying for a green card.

AP

In this Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2019, photo, Dr. Jasmine Saavedra, a pediatrician at Esperanza Health Centers whose parents emigrated from Mexico in the 1980s, examines Alondra Marquez, a newborn baby in her clinic in Chicago.

## Gun control advocates call for new gun laws at rallies

Gun control advocates rallied around the country on Saturday, seeking to pressure Congress to tighten the nation's gun laws after the recent mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, Dayton, Ohio and Northern California.

Demonstrators in Providence, Rhode Island, where several dozen people gathered. Some held signs that said, "Disarm Hate," ''Enough" and "No One Needs a Weapon of War at Home." In Baltimore, activists organized a march.

Protesters in Charleston, West Virginia, carried signs that called for changing Congress if it didn't change gun laws.

Demonstrators also gathered in front of City Hall in San Francisco.

The group, Everytown for Gun Safety, announced recently that it planned to hold rallies over the weekend in every state. The group is demanding a strong federal "red flag" bill to allow seizure of weapons in certain cases and legislation requiring background checks on all gun sales.

Congress is on summer recess, but Republican Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell has asked committee chairmen to review possible gun bills for consideration when lawmakers return in September.

Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee announced Friday that they will be returning early to consider other gun-violence legislation. The House has already approved legislation bolstering background checks for gun purchases.

The gunmen in El Paso and Dayton killed a total of 31 people in back-to-back weekend shootings in early August that stunned the nation and revived calls to tighten access to firearms. Those shootings came days after another gunman opened fire at a festival in Gilroy, California, killing three people. ***(AP)***

## At least 13 people arrested at Portland, Oregon, protest

**PORTLAND, Ore.** (AP)—Police arrested at least 13 people and seized metal poles, bear spray and other weapons Saturday as hundreds of far-right protesters and anti-fascist counter-demonstrators swarmed downtown Portland, Oregon.

Authorities closed bridges and streets to try to keep the rival groups apart. They were largely successful.

"This was a dynamic event with demonstrators frequently moving from one part of the city to another," Mayor Ted Wheeler said at an evening news conference.

As of early afternoon, most of the right-wing groups had left the area via a downtown bridge. Police used officers on bikes and in riot gear to keep black-clad, helmet- and mask-wearing anti-fascist protesters — known as antifa — from following them.

But hundreds of people remained downtown and on nearby streets, and there were skirmishes throughout the day. Police declared a gathering of mostly left-wing protesters near Pioneer Courthouse Square a "civil disturbance" and told people to leave.

Police spokeswoman Lt. Tina Jones at one point said there were about 1,200 on the streets, but that number fell throughout the day. Six people suffered minor injuries.

The events began late Saturday morning. Flag-waving members of the Proud Boys, Three Percenters militia group and others gathered downtown, some also wearing body armor and helmets. Police said they had seized the weapons, including shields, from multiple groups as they assembled along the Willamette River, which runs through the city.

More than two dozen local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, were in the city for the right-wing rally. Portland Police said all of the city's 1,000 officers would be on duty for the gathering that was hyped on social media and elsewhere for weeks.

President Donald Trump weighed in early Saturday, writing on Twitter that "Portland is being watched very closely ... Hopefully the Mayor will be able to properly do his job."

He also wrote that "major consideration is being given to naming ANTIFA an 'ORGANIZATION of TERROR.'"

But it wasn't immediately clear what he meant by that as there's no mechanism for the United States government to declare a domestic organization a terror group.

Wheeler responded to the president's tweet in an interview with CNN, saying, "frankly, it's not helpful."

At the evening news conference Wheeler tied the demonstrations to "a rising white nationalist movement."

"We're certainly seeing that play out. ... Portland being a very progressive community is always going to be at or near ground zero of this battle," Wheeler said.

The self-described anti-fascists had vowed to confront the right-wing rally, while leaders from the far right urged their followers to turn out in large numbers to protest the arrests of six members of right-wing groups in the run-up to the event.

Patriot Prayer's Joey Gibson, who organized similar rallies in 2017 and 2018 that erupted in clashes, surrendered Friday on an arrest warrant for felony rioting. He was at a confrontation that broke out on May 1 outside a bar where anti-fa members had gathered after a May Day demonstration.

In a video he livestreamed on Facebook, Gibson accused the police of playing politics by arresting him but not the masked demonstrators who beat up conservative blogger Andy Ngo at a June 29 rally that drew national attention.

A video of that attack went viral and led the Proud Boys, who have been designated a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, to organize Saturday's event.

Police continue to investigate several incidents from clashes on May 1 and June 29 and are politically neutral, Jones said.

Authorities had asked residents not to call 911 unless it's a life-threatening emergency and to stay away from the heart of downtown.

Portland Police Chief Danielle Outlaw said authorities tried to keep everyone safe and allow people to exercise their free speech rights.

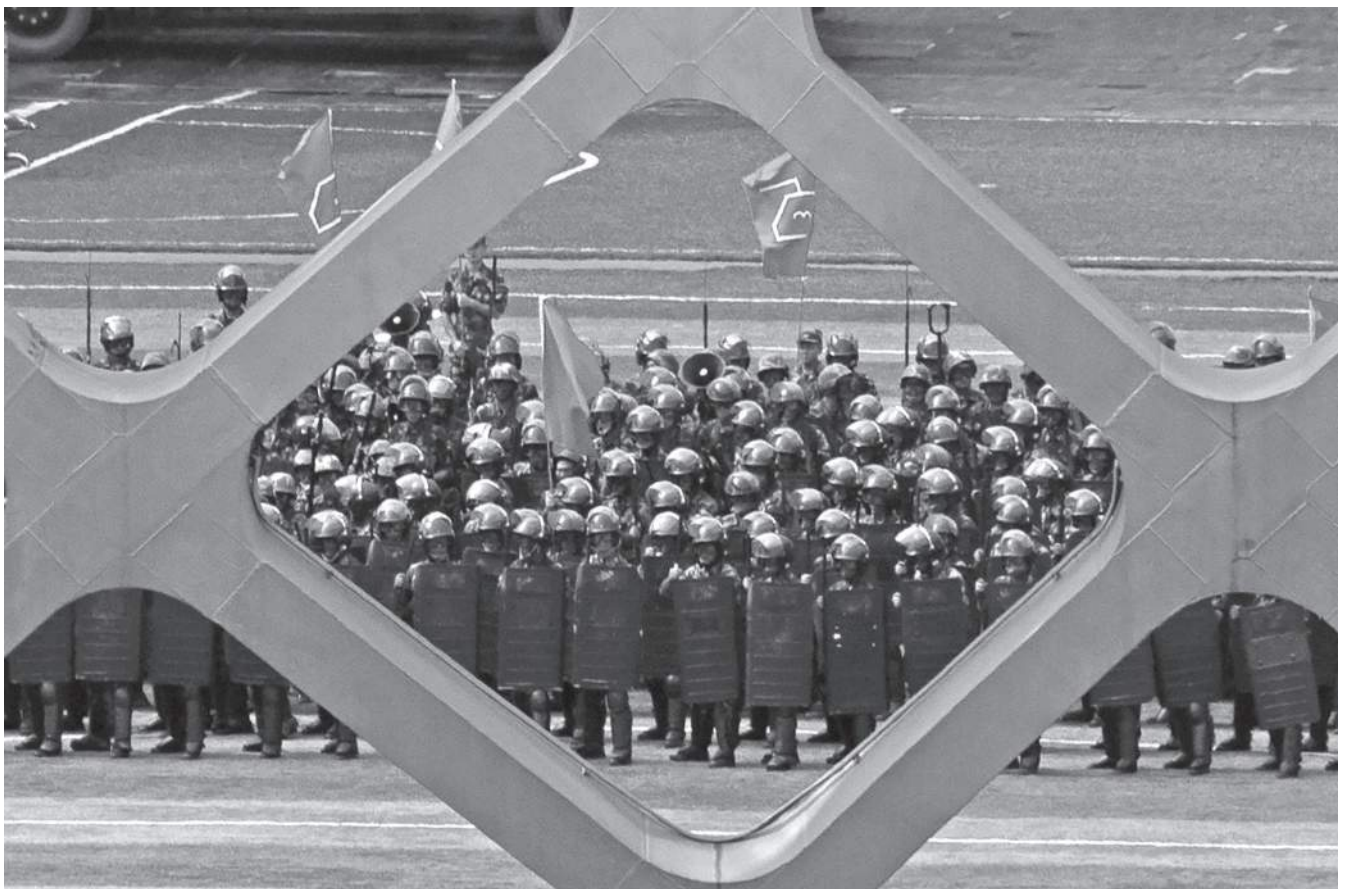
# Asia

# China flexes muscle near HK amid more weekend rallies

**SHENZHEN, China** (AP)—Members of China's paramilitary People's Armed Police marched and practiced crowd control tactics at a sports complex in Shenzhen across from Hong Kong in what some interpreted as a threat against pro-democracy protesters in the semi-autonomous territory.

The sound of marching boots and synchronized shouts echoed from the grounds on Friday. Officers in green camouflage stood guard at closed entrances. A stadium security guard said "it wasn't clear" when the paramilitary police would leave the grounds.

Chinese state media have only said that the Shenzhen exercises were planned earlier and were not directly related to the unrest in Hong Kong, though they came shortly after the central government in Beijing said the protests were beginning to show the "sprouts of terrorism."



AP

Chinese paramilitary policemen go through drills at the Shenzhen Bay Stadium in Shenzhen in Southern China's Guangdong province on Sunday, Aug. 18, 2019.

From a distance, police could be seen conducting drills in military fatigues, using shields, poles and other riot-control gear. In one exercise, two groups marched in formation with those in front raising shields as if to protect themselves from projectiles. Others behind held red flags and banners. The words "the law" and "prosecuted" could be seen on one.

Outside, dozens of armored carriers and trucks sat in the parking lot of the Shenzhen Bay Stadium, close to a bridge linking mainland China to Hong Kong.

Asked if Hong Kong police could maintain order or if mainland Chinese intervention is becoming inevitable, Hong Kong police commander Yeung Man-pun said that while they face tremendous pressure, "I can tell you we're confident the police have the capability to maintain law and order."

Germany, meanwhile, said it considers China to be a responsible actor that will respect Hong Kong laws guaranteeing freedom of speech and rule of law.

Government spokesman Steffen Seibert said Friday that Hong Kong's 1997 Basic Law, under which the city was promised a high degree of autonomy when the former British colony returned to China, "is a Chinese law, and as such we naturally expect that the People's Republic of China, too, won't call into question the peaceful exercise of these rights."

Weeks of protests in Hong Kong have been marked by increasing violence and a shutdown of the Hong Kong airport earlier this week. The demonstrators are demanding expanded political rights and the scrapping of legislation that could have seen criminal suspects sent to mainland China.

A weekend of protests began Friday night with a university student-led "power to the people" rally in Chater Garden, a public square in the financial district.

A pro-democracy march is planned for Saturday along with a separate pro-government "Save Hong Kong" rally, ahead of a major pro-democracy rally called for Sunday. Police have denied permission for the march on Sunday, but protesters have ignored such denials in the past.

# Indian authorities begin easing clampdown in Kashmir

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—Authorities in Indian-administered Kashmir began restoring landline phone services on Saturday after a nearly two-week security crackdown and news blackout following a decision by India's government to downgrade the Muslim-majority region's autonomy.

Shahid Choudhary, a government administrator in Srinagar, the region's main city, said restrictions were being lifted in most areas and government offices were open. He also said on Twitter that food and other supplies were available "in abundance."

Police said restrictions on the movement of people were relaxed in several parts of the region.

Rohit Kansal, another administrator in Srinagar, said there were six to seven minor incidents of protests in areas which remained under a lockdown, suggesting clashes with security forces. He said that eight people suffered injuries, but they were in stable condition. He didn't give other details.

Kansal told reporters that public transport buses had started operating in some rural areas in Indian-controlled Kashmir. He also said cellphone and internet services had resumed in some districts, but news reports said that happened only in the Hindu-dominated Jammu region, which was not threatened by anti-India protests.

Security forces that blanketed the region remained on high alert after hundreds of people took to the streets for an anti-India protest following Friday prayers in Srinagar.

The government had imposed the lockdown to avoid a violent reaction to its decision on Aug. 5 to downgrade the autonomy of the region. The decision by the Hindu nationalist government in New Delhi has raised tensions with Pakistan and touched off anger in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir.

There was a deadly exchange of gun and mortar firing between Indian and Pakistani forces Saturday across the militarized Line of Control that divides Kashmir between the archrivals. Both countries claim the Himalayan region in its entirety, and they have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir.

An Indian soldier was killed by Pakistani forces in Nowshera sector, Col. Aman Anand, an Indian army spokesman, said in New Delhi. Earlier in the week, Pakistani security forces said firing by India in the region killed three Pakistani soldiers and two civilians in separate incidents. Both sides frequently exchange gunfire in the region and accuse each other of violating a 2003 cease-fire accord.

In Islamabad, Pakistani military spokesman Maj. Gen. Asif Ghafoor said the country's armed forces were fully prepared to respond to any Indian aggression.

The U.N. Security Council met to discuss Kashmir for the first time in decades, and Pakistan's U.N. ambassador said the session showed that people in the region "may be locked up ... but their voices were heard today." The council took no action during the closed meeting, which was called for by China and Pakistan.

President Donald Trump spoke with Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan by phone on Friday and conveyed the importance of India and Pakistan reducing tensions through dialogue, said White House spokesman Hogan Gidley.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Bodies found at site of China rockslide with 17 missing

**BEIJING** (AP)—Teams have begun recovering bodies at a railway repair site in southwestern China where 17 workers were buried by rocks. The official Xinhua News Agency said Sunday that four bodies had been retrieved from the section of the Chengu-Kunming railway in Sichuan province's Ganluo county where boulders and rubble came racing down a steep slope on Wednesday while work was underway. Hundreds of rescuers using machinery, drones and life detecting equipment were searching for the rest of the missing. While the rockslide's cause is unknown, the workers had been repairing rails damaged by an earlier landslide, stopping all service on the crucial line. China has suffered a spate of deadly work safety failures this year, ranging from explosions at chemical plants to the loss of dozens of firefighters.

### Afghan officials: Suicide attack at wedding hall kills 63

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—The death toll from a late-night suicide bombing at a crowded wedding party in the Afghan capital rose to at least 63 on Sunday, including women and children, officials said. It was the deadliest attack in Kabul this year. Another 182 civilians were wounded in the Saturday night explosion, government spokesman Feroz Bashari said. Interior Ministry spokesman Nusrat Rahimi confirmed the casualty toll as families began to bury the dead. Some helped to dig graves with their bare hands. Kabul residents were outraged as there appears to be no end to violence even as the United States and the Taliban say they are nearing a deal to end their 18-year conflict, America's longest war. The Taliban condemned the attack as "forbidden and unjustifiable" and denied any involvement, leading many to suspect the Islamic State group's local affiliate in Afghanistan in the attack. Both the Taliban and IS have carried large-scale attacks in the Afghan capital in the past. The blast occurred in a western Kabul neighborhood that is home to many of the country's minority Shiite Hazara community. IS has claimed responsibility for many attacks targeting Shiites in the past. The bomber detonated his explosives near the stage where musicians were playing and "all the youths, children and all the people who were there were killed," said eyewitness Gul Mohammad.

### Top Chinese, North Korean generals meet in Beijing

**BEIJING** (AP)—Top military leaders from North Korea and China have recommitted themselves to strengthened exchanges between their armed forces during a meeting in Beijing. The meeting Saturday came as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un supervised another test-firing of an unspecified new weapon, seen as an attempt to pressure Washington and Seoul over nuclear negotiations and joint military exercises. The official Xinhua News agency says Zhang Youxia, the vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, met Kim Su Kil, director of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army. Zhang said China's military wanted closer communication to "promote cooperation and mutual support, so as to contribute to the consolidation and development of bilateral relations and regional peace and stability." China is North Korea's most important ally.

# World

# Airstrikes on Syrian rebel stronghold kill family of 7

**BEIRUT** (AP)—Government and Russian airstrikes pounded the southern edge of a rebel stronghold in Syria's northwest on Saturday, killing at least seven members of one family, activists and a war monitor reported.

The intense airstrikes were coupled with fierce ground clashes as the government, backed by Russia, pushed ahead with a months-old offensive seeking to chip away at territory on the periphery of the rebel enclave.

Idlib and surrounding areas are home to 3 million civilians and is dominated by Islamist insurgents.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said a woman and her six children were killed in an airstrike that hit their home in the village of Deir al-Sharqi in southern Idlib. Rami Abdurrahman, the head of the Observatory, said the children were all under 18 years old. Their father survived because he was not home at the time of the airstrike.

The activist-operated Thiqa news agency also reported the casualties and showed images of rescuers attempting to extricate the body of a young boy trapped under the rubble.

Syria's Civil Defense, a volunteer rescue group also known as the White Helmets, said the village of Deir al-Sharqi was hit with four airstrikes that resulted in the killing of the Hammoud family.

A volunteer from the group, which operates in opposition areas, said the intense airstrikes hit a main highway in southern Idlib, and that a rescue team came under attack as they were putting out a fire caused by one of the strikes.

By early afternoon Saturday, the Civil Defense team had recorded 31 strikes, including 18 suspected Russian airstrikes.

Thiqa said the barrage of airstrikes sparked a new wave of displacement inside the enclave. Residents have been moving toward safer areas near the border with Turkey.

Overnight airstrikes in the town of Hass hit a gathering of civilians who had escaped the violence further south, killing at least 13, also including children.

The United Nations has been calling for respecting the lives of civilians as well as medical and humanitarian workers, saying that the death toll is "rising every day."

In the past 3 1/2 months, the U.N. documented 500 civilian deaths and said 42 attacks on health care facilities were reported. The U.N. said a paramedic and an ambulance driver were killed in airstrikes Wednesday.

The Idlib stronghold sits on the Turkish border and is surrounded by government and Turkish-controlled areas. Already more than 450,000 people have been displaced inside the rebel-controlled area by the fighting, which began April 30.

AP

This photo provided by the Syrian Civil Defense White Helmets, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, shows Syrian White Helmet civil defense workers search for victims from under the rubble of a destroyed building that hit by airstrikes, in Deir al-Sharqi village, in Idlib province, Syria, Saturday, Aug 17, 2019.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Israeli troops kill 3 Palestinians near Gaza fence

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip** (AP)—Gaza's Health Ministry says Israeli troops have killed three Palestinians and severely wounded a fourth near the heavily guarded perimeter fence. The Israeli military said Sunday that a helicopter and a tank fired at armed suspects near the fence overnight. After weeks of calm, Palestinian militants have attempted a number of raids in recent days. They fired rockets into Israel on two occasions over the weekend, without wounding anyone. Israel holds Hamas responsible for all attacks emanating from Gaza, which the Islamic militant group has ruled since 2007. Hamas has said recent attacks were carried out by individuals frustrated by the Israeli-Egyptian blockade imposed on the territory 12 years ago.

Israeli-Palestinian tensions have also risen following recent attacks in the occupied West Bank and clashes at a Jerusalem holy site.

### Rainstorm floods markets, underpasses in Istanbul; 1 dead

**ISTANBUL** (AP)—Heavy rains have hit the Turkish city of Istanbul, flooding streets and basements, stranding drivers on roads and disrupting rail and ferry services. At least one person was found dead inside a flooded underpass, the private DHA news agency reported. Haberturk television said Saturday's rainstorm flooded Istanbul's historic Grand Bazaar—a sprawling complex of covered alleyways lined with shops. The heavy downpour also flooded a pedestrian underpass lined with stalls and video footage showed merchandise floating in the almost waist-high flood waters. Authorities suspended ferry services across the Bosporus and some tram services were also halted. A car was dragged into a pit caused by a collapsed road but its passengers escaped without injuries, Haberturk reported.

### Rally, pickets call for fair Moscow elections

**MOSCOW** (AP)—About 4,000 people have held a rally in Moscow to demand fairness in upcoming city council elections, and solo pickets protesting the exclusion of some opposition and independent candidates are taking place at prominent monuments. The actions Saturday have been much smaller and less heated than recent weekend protests over the issue. Two unauthorized demonstrations were previously harshly broken up by police, with more than 2,000 people detained altogether; a sanctioned demonstration last week attracted as many as 60,000 people, the largest protest in several years. The authorized rally on Saturday was organized by the Communist Party. The solo pickets are following a law that demonstrations by a single person do not require official permission. No detentions have been reported.

## Yemen rebel drone attack targets remote Saudi oil field

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates** (AP)—Drones launched by Yemen's Houthi rebels attacked a massive oil and gas field deep inside Saudi Arabia's sprawling desert on Saturday, causing what the kingdom described as a "limited fire" in the second such recent attack on its crucial energy industry.

The attack on the Shaybah oil field, which produces some 1 million barrels of crude oil a day near the kingdom's border with the United Arab Emirates, again shows the reach of the Houthis' drone program. Shaybah sits some 1,200 kilometers (750 miles) from Houthi-controlled territory, underscoring the rebels' ability to now strike at both nations, which are mired in Yemen's yearslong war.

The drone assault also comes amid heightened tensions in the wider Mideast between the U.S. and Iran, whose supreme leader hosted a top Houthi official days earlier in Tehran.

State media in Saudi Arabia quoted Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih as saying production was not affected at the oil field and no one was wounded in the attack Saturday. The state-run Saudi Arabian Oil Co., known widely as Saudi Aramco, issued a terse statement acknowledging a "limited fire" at a liquid natural gas facility at Shaybah.

A satellite image obtained by The Associated Press showed black smoke rising just west of the natural gas facility that wasn't seen in images from prior days. The facility is just north of the airstrip Saudi Aramco built to fly staffers into the remote region.

The Saudi acknowledgement of the attack came hours after Yahia Sarie, a military spokesman for the Houthis, issued a video statement claiming the rebels launched 10 bomb-laden drones targeting the field in their "biggest-ever" operation. He threatened more attacks would be coming.

"This is in response to their aggression toward us and our people in Yemen," Sarie said.

Al-Falih linked the attack to a May assault by Houthi drones that targeted the kingdom's crucial East-West Pipeline, a 1,200-kilometer (746-mile) link between its eastern oil fields and the Red Sea. He also mentioned recent explosions on oil tankers near the Strait of Hormuz that the U.S. blames on Iranian-planted limpet mines. Iran denies being behind those attacks.

"This act of terrorism and sabotage is only an extension of those acts that have recently targeted the global oil supply chains, including oil pipelines in the kingdom, and oil tankers," al-Falih said. "This cowardly attack once again highlights the importance of the international community's response to all terrorist actors who carry out such acts of sabotage, including the Houthi militias."

The oil field at Shaybah is in the Arabian Peninsula's Empty Quarter, a sea of sand where temperatures routinely hit 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit). Saudi Aramco on its website refers to the field as "the most remote treasure on Earth," home to reserves of 14.3 billion barrels of oil and 25 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

The field's distance from rebel-held territory in Yemen demonstrates the range of the Houthis' drones. U.N. investigators say the Houthis' new UAV-X drone, found in recent months during the Saudi-led coalition's war in Yemen, likely has a range of up to 1,500 kilometers (930 miles). That puts Saudi oil fields, an under-construction Emirati nuclear power plant and Dubai's busy international airport within their range.

Unlike sophisticated drones that use satellites to allow pilots to remotely fly them, analysts believe Houthi drones are likely programmed to strike a specific latitude and longitude and cannot be controlled once out of radio range. The Houthis have used drones, which can be difficult to track by radar, to attack Saudi Patriot missile batteries, as well as enemy troops.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE launched their war against the Houthis in March 2015 to back the country's internationally recognized government. The UAE recently began withdrawing troops from the conflict while UAE-allied separatists recently seized the city of Aden, further complicating a war seen as the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

# Focus

# Claims: Migrant children molested in US-funded foster care

By GARANCE BURKE, JULIET LINDERMAN AND MARTHA MENDOZA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

*This story is part of an ongoing joint investigation between The Associated Press and the PBS series FRONTLINE on the treatment of migrant children, which includes an upcoming film.*

AP
In this Thursday, June 21, 2018 file photo, police stand outside an office for the Cayuga Centers in the the Harlem neighborhood of New York. Three of the four incidents involving physical harm to separated immigrant children, outlined in legal filings, involved charges of Cayuga Centers, the largest foster care placement for migrant children.

**SANTA ANA, California** (AP)—After local Guatemalan officials burned down an environmental activist's home, he decided to leave his village behind and flee to the United States, hoping he'd be granted asylum and his little boy, whose heart was failing, would receive lifesaving medical care.

But after crossing the border into Arizona in May of last year, Border Patrol agents tore the man's 7-year-old son from his arms and sent the father nearly 2,000 miles (3,220 kilometers) away to a detention center in Georgia. The boy, now 8, went into a U.S.-funded foster home for migrant children in New York.

The foster care programs are aimed at providing migrant children with care while authorities work to connect them with parents, relatives or other sponsors. But instead the boy told a counselor he was repeatedly sexually molested by other boys in the foster home.

A review of 38 legal claims obtained by The Associated Press — some of which have never been made public — shows taxpayers could be on the hook for more than $200 million in damages from parents who said their children were harmed while in government custody.

The father and son are among dozens of families—separated at the border as part of the Trump administration's zero tolerance policy—who are now preparing to sue the federal government, including several who say their young children were sexually, physically or emotionally abused in federally funded foster care.

With more than 3,000 migrant children taken from their parents at the border in recent years, many lawsuits are expected, potentially totaling in the billions. Families who spoke to the AP and FRONTLINE did so on the condition of anonymity over fears about their families' safety.

"How is it possible that my son was suffering these things?" the father said. "My son is little and couldn't defend himself."

The families—some in the U.S., others already deported to Central America — are represented by grassroots immigration clinics and nonprofit groups, along with some of the country's most powerful law firms. They're making claims under the Federal Tort Claims Act as a precursor to filing lawsuits. The FTCA allows individuals who suffer harm as a direct result of federal employees to sue the government.

"It's the tip of the iceberg," said Erik Walsh, an attorney at Arnold & Porter, which has one of the world's leading pro bono programs.

The firm has so far filed 18 claims on behalf of nine families, totaling $54 million, and Walsh says dozens more are likely coming.

The government has six months to settle FTCA claims from the time they're filed. After that, the claimants are free to file federal lawsuits.

The departments of Justice and Homeland Security —both named in claims — did not respond to requests for comment.

In a statement, Health and Human Services— the agency responsible for the care of migrant children—said it does not respond to pending litigation and that it serves children in a compassionate and organized manner through its Office of Refugee Resettlement.

"The important work happening in each of the facilities and programs in the ORR network around the country—work ORR has done successfully since 2003—takes an experienced team of competent, hardworking men and women dedicated to the welfare of the children," HHS spokesman Mark Weber said. "We treat the children in our care with dignity and respect."

Last year, the Office of Refugee Resettlement cared for nearly 50,000 children who crossed the border by themselves, as well as children who were separated from their families under the zero tolerance policy. The agency housed them in foster programs, residential shelters and detention camps around the country, sometimes making daily placements of as many as 500 new arrivals, from babies to teens.

> *"How is it possible that my son was suffering these things? My son is little and couldn't defend himself."*

The allegations of abuse and assaults in foster care raise fresh questions about the government's efforts to place younger children with families in lieu of larger shelters and packed detention facilities.

The legal claims, a recent federal court filing and Health and Human Services documents released by Congress earlier this year allege that children have suffered serious emotional trauma after being physically harmed or fondled by other children while in foster care.

Six of the claims for damages involve children who were in foster care. And one recent court filing refers to a migrant child being abused in foster care.

The records released by Congress show the Office of Refugee Resettlement referred at least seven foster care allegations of sexual abuse to the Justice Department in 2017 and 2018. Because some are anonymous to protect the children's privacy, it's unclear if some of the claims are duplicates.

Justice has not responded to repeated queries about those cases from members of Congress.

Three of the four incidents involving physical harm outlined in legal filings occurred at Cayuga Centers in New York, the largest foster care placement for migrant children, housing up to 900 babies and children at a time. The kids are supposed to be placed with Spanish-speaking families who are paid $1,000 per month per child.

In a statement on Friday, Cayuga Centers said it takes the safety of children in its care seriously and reports allegations of abuse to the proper local, state and federal authorities, including the New York State Office of Children Services, the New York Police Department and Office for Refugee Resettlement.

"Child protection is our number one priority. If a concern is raised about child safety in a foster home, it is investigated immediately. Our staff are all mandated reporters," the group said in the statement. "Children are removed from a foster home immediately when an allegation is raised and if necessary, a foster home would be suspended until cleared following a thorough investigation."

In one Cayuga home, a foster parent found a little girl being forced to touch another child's private parts and kiss her on the lips, according to a memo submitted as part of a federal lawsuit related to family separation.

The girl was 3 when immigration officials took her from her father in March, after they'd crossed the border in Texas. As a result of her trauma, the little girl began to regress in foster care, having difficulty eating, drinking and using the toilet, according to her attorney. The girl was sent back to Honduras on Wednesday, a month after her father was deported.

One Guatemalan mother whose 5-year-old daughter was placed in Cayuga last year says her little girl still wakes up crying from what she endured at the foster home.

"Now she's scared each time we go out or when she sees a police car or someone in uniform," said the mother, who has filed a $6 million claim. "She says 'Mami, don't let them separate us again.'"

Another 5-year-old Guatemalan girl said a boy grabbed her chest and touched her inappropriately, both in her foster home and during daytime classes at a Safe Haven for Children New York foster program, according to a $3 million injury claim. The girl was moved to a new foster home, but there she suffered verbal abuse from her foster parent's mother, who called her names and locked her alone in rooms as punishment, according to the claim.

A spokesman for Lutheran Social Services of New York, which oversees the Safe Haven for Children New York foster program, declined to comment on the allegation.

Two claims blame the government for wrongful deaths: one, seeking $20 million, was filed by the wife of a Honduran father who killed himself in a padded cell after officers pulled his 3-year-old son from his arms.

"Essentially what this policy does, is it makes examples out of families that get ripped apart to deter others," said John Escamilla, who is representing the man's wife and two children. He said he plans to file a federal lawsuit stemming from his FTCA claim as soon as Friday. "The people making these policies intended this level of suffering, and that's what's unconscionable."

In another case not involving child separation, a Guatemalan toddler died after a three-week stay in a family detention center. Her mother's $60 million claim alleges the government failed to give the girl proper medical attention.

# Health & Wellness

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MAYO CLINIC MINUTE

Intermittent fasting is not necessarily the answer to everyone's problem, though it can help with weight loss.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

# Intermittent fasting facts

Intermittent fasting is cutting yourself off from any food or beverages, other than water, for a certain amount of time. Some fasting is for religious reasons, while others fast for weight loss. But is it a healthy way to lose weight?

"We're hearing a lot more about intermittent fasting, and it essentially means the voluntary abstinence of food or beverage for a prolonged period of time," says Mikel Bryant, a Mayo Clinic dietitian.

Bryant says, while fasting can be a tool that helps some people with weight loss, "it's not necessarily the entire answer to everybody's problem. Our body needs a given amount of nutrients every day."

Denying your body of calories for an extended period of time isn't recommended for anyone who's physically active, pregnant, under 18 or has certain medical conditions, such as diabetes.

She says, if you're considering fasting as a weight-loss tool, make sure that, when you do eat, you're taking in quality, healthy ingredients, such as the proper amount of fruits and vegetables, whole grains and lean protein.

"So, bottom line, fasting may not be for everyone," Bryant says. "But it is worth taking a look at your individual diet, your lifestyle, your behaviors and seeing if there can be any improvements that can be made to reach your weight goals."

And talk to your health care provider before beginning any type of fasting weight-loss plan. ***(Mayo Clinic News Network)***

**Getting physical is good for you, and there are dozens of new reasons to get moving. USA Today's Nanci Hellmich shares the latest findings from studies presented this weekend at the Obesity Society meeting in San Diego.**

## Eat less, move and lift weights to beat obesity

### Strength training works well with aerobics

New evidence is reinforcing the notion that the combination of strength training and aerobic activities, such as walking, may be just what the doctor ordered.

To examine the impact of exercise on people with type 2 diabetes, Timothy Church, director of preventive medicine research at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, La., and colleagues had people with type 2 diabetes do either aerobics only (mostly walking), strength training only or a combination of the two.

They found that those who did both forms of exercise for nine months lost the most body fat (3 pounds), trimmed the most from their waistlines (1 inch), had the most improvements in fitness and got the most significant improvement in hemoglobin A1C, a test for blood-sugar levels.

"For optimal health, you need to work your heart and lungs with aerobic exercise and your muscles and bones with weight lifting," says Church, co-author of "Move Yourself."

The federal government's physical activity guidelines recommend that adults do both moderate-intensity physical activity each week and muscle-strengthening activities.

■ ■ ■

### Get busy if you want to beat the old middle-age spread

Is there any way to fight the dreaded middle-age spread? Yes, researchers say, but you have to get physical.

"Some people gain a pound a year during midlife," says Caroline Apovian, an associate professor of medicine at Boston University School of Medicine. Many become less active as they age.

Plus, people start to lose muscle mass at age 40 and continue to lose over the years if they don't do something to preserve it. This affects the calories they burn when active and at rest.

A study released this year by Harvard scientists showed women gain an average of 20 pounds over 16 years as they move into middle age, but those who regularly walked briskly or biked were less likely to gain as much.

Apovian is doing research to see whether having men do more strength training and eat more protein (meat, fish, eggs) can prevent muscle loss and fat accumulation. And they are having some older men take testosterone to see the effects.

You don't have to go to the gym to strength-train, says John Jakicic, an exercise researcher at the University of Pittsburgh. It can be done at home following a DVD, using hand weights or resistance bands. Taking a brisk walk daily and doing some weight training "can provide benefits that will dramatically improve your health."

■ ■ ■

### Watch a fitness commercial and you just may eat less

If you're struggling to eat less and keep your appetite under control, here's a tip: Try watching someone else exercising.

People consumed less at meals after watching exercise-related commercials than they did after viewing other types of ads, a new study says.

Researchers at the Cornell Food and Brand Lab in Ithaca, N.Y., recruited 125 participants and had half watch TV exercise-related ads for running shoes and fitness centers. The other half watched ads for things such as car insurance and washing machines. Then all participants were offered a buffet lunch.

Findings: Those who saw the fitness messages ate 22 percent fewer calories than the others.

The exercise commercials may have caused people to be more health- and body-conscious, says the study's lead author, Ellen van Kleef.

The fitness messages reminded people of how much work it is to burn off calories, says Brian Wansink, director of the Cornell lab. "They realized that half-cup of pudding is going to mean a mile and a half on the treadmill." ***(USA Today)***

# Life & Style

## LA Opera declines details on Placido Domingo investigation

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—The Los Angeles Opera has declined to release any details of its promised investigation into allegations of sexual harassment against opera legend Placido Domingo, the company's longtime general director, including whether it has already started.

The union that represents opera singers said Friday that it plans a meeting in Los Angeles next week to address its members' concerns ahead of the LA company's season opener Sept. 14.

Len Egert, the executive director of the American Guild of Musical Artists, told The Associated Press that the union has been receiving its own reports from members since an AP story earlier this week detailing accusations against the 78-year-old singing star .

Domingo

Hours after the AP story was released Tuesday detailing the allegations, the LA Opera announced it would engage outside counsel to investigate the "concerning allegations."

Three of the nine women who accused the singer of harassment and abuse of power described encounters they said took place while working with Domingo at the LA organization. The nine women and dozens of others interviewed said Domingo's behavior was an open secret in the industry and that he pursued younger women with impunity.

On Friday, LA Opera would not disclose who would be conducting the investigation, how it would be carried out, when it would start or its expected duration.

A spokeswoman for the company said Friday LA Opera will share details when they have information and that there was currently nothing to add beyond the statement released Tuesday.

Domingo is widely credited with raising the profile of LA Opera, where he served as an artistic consultant from 1984 to 2000, artistic director from 2000 to 2003 and, finally, general director from 2003 until now. His current contract runs through the 2021-22 season.

In its initial statement, LA Opera said Domingo "has been a dynamic creative force in the life of LA Opera" but that it is committed to ensuring that its employees and artists "be treated respectfully and feel safe and secure."

Domingo did not respond to detailed questions from the AP about specific incidents. But he issued a statement calling the allegations "deeply troubling, and as presented, inaccurate," adding "I believed that all of my interactions and relationships were always welcomed and consensual."

The allegations in the AP story sparked a global discussion among opera singers on social media forums about the culture of sexual misconduct in the classical music world and the belief that opera companies have long been aware of bad behavior and tolerated it, particularly when the accused are people in positions of power.

Aside from LA Opera, the other women quoted in the story recounted incidents they said took place at other venues, including Washington Opera and the Metropolitan Opera in New York, ranging from 1988 into the mid-2000s.

## 'Easy Rider' star, 1960s swashbuckler Peter Fonda dies at 79

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Actor Peter Fonda, the son of a Hollywood legend who became a movie star in his own right after both writing and starring in the counterculture classic "Easy Rider," died Friday at his home of complications from lung cancer. He was 79.

"I am very sad," Jane Fonda said in a statement. "He was my sweet-hearted baby brother. The talker of the family. I have had beautiful alone time with him these last days. He went out laughing."

Born into Hollywood royalty as Henry Fonda's only son, Peter Fonda carved his own path with his non-conformist tendencies and earned an Oscar nomination for co-writing the psychedelic road trip movie "Easy Rider." He would never win that golden statuette, but he would later be nominated for his leading performance as a Vietnam veteran and widowed beekeeper in "Ulee's Gold."

In this Friday, Oct. 23, 2009 file photo, Peter Fonda, poses atop a Harley-Davidson motorcycle in Glendale, Calif. AP

Fonda was born in New York in 1940 to parents whose personas were the very opposite of the rebellious images their kids would cultivate. Father Henry Fonda was already a Hollywood giant, known for playing straight-shooting cowboys and soldiers. Mother Frances Ford Seymour was a Canadian-born U.S. socialite.

He was only 10 years old when his mother died. She had a nervous breakdown after learning of her husband's affair and was confined to a hospital. In 1950, she killed herself. It would be about five years before Peter Fonda learned the truth behind her death.

## Latino actors, writers pen 'letter of solidarity' amid fears

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.** (AP)—Actresses America Ferrera and Eva Longoria are leading a group of more than 150 writers, artists and leaders who have written a public "letter of solidarity" to U.S. Latinos after the mass shooting in El Paso, Texas, and an immigration raid in Mississippi.

The letter, published Friday in The New York Times and in a handful of Spanish-language newspapers, says the signers stand with U.S. Latinos who may feel "terrified, heartbroken and defeated by the barrage of attacks," citing the shooting in El Paso, which targeted Hispanics, and another shooting in Gilroy, California. The two attacks killed nearly two dozen Latinos.

A huge immigration raid of Mississippi poultry plants this month that rounded up 680 mostly Latino workers, leaving behind crying children searching for their detained parents, also has unnerved some Hispanics.

"We have been smeared by political rhetoric and murdered in violent hate crimes. We have been separated from our families and have watched our children caged," the letter said. "But, we will not be broken. We will not be silenced."

The letter says such "indignities and cruelty" won't diminish the contributions Latinos have made to the U.S., and it urged Hispanics to keep standing up to bigotry.

Signing the letter were some of the most important Latino figures in entertainment, art, literature and activism, including novelist Sandra Cisneros, Academy Award-winning actress Rita Moreno, civil rights leader Dolores Huerta, singer-actress Jennifer Lopez and Tony Award-winning composer Lin-Manuel Miranda.

The violence has some Hispanics looking over their shoulders, avoiding speaking Spanish in public, and seeking out escape routes amid fears they could be next.

The shootings and the raid come against a backdrop of racist episodes that include then-candidate Donald Trump referring to Mexican immigrants as "rapists"; Trump, as president, referring to migrants coming to the U.S. as "an invasion"; and viral videos of white people chastising Hispanics for speaking Spanish in public.

Longoria told The Associated Press that she and Ferrera got the idea for the letter after they talked and found out they were both depressed and sad after the El Paso shooting.

"Once we started talking to other people, we found out others were feeling the same way," Longoria said. "Instead of us all suffering alone we wanted to unite and tell our community that is going through all of this ... we are with you and we will fight for you."

Longoria said the letter is not meant to take political sides but to reach out to Americans regardless of party to say Latinos are hurting.

## CNN's Ward says intimidation effort made on Russia story

**NEW YORK** (AP)—CNN's Clarissa Ward says her story this week about Russian involvement in the Central African Republic came with a price: she was trailed during her reporting and made the subject of a 15-minute propaganda video denigrating her work.

Ward said she was shaken by the experience but it confirmed for her that the story made powerful people uncomfortable.

"This was very clearly an attempt to discredit and intimidate us," Ward, CNN's chief international correspondent, said Friday.

Ward

Her story about Russian involvement in gold mining and other activities in the African nation touched upon the role of Wagner, a private Russian military contractor believed to be backed by Yevgeny Prigozhin, a businessman with close ties to the Kremlin. Prigozhin was sanctioned by the U.S. for investing in organizations that tried to influence the 2016 American presidential election.

Ward's first reporting visit to the Central African Republic went smoothly, but troubles emerged when she returned. She and her team had problems getting accreditation, were accused of smuggling and of having fake documents.

During a visit to a gold mine, Ward said she noticed a vehicle with four white men following them. She approached the car and the men swiveled their heads to avoid being seen on camera and drove away. She saw the same vehicle later near her hotel.

Part of CNN's concern was the knowledge that three Russian journalists had been killed last year working in the Central African Republic, although Ward said she believed the affiliation with a well-known international news organization offered some protection.

"The Russians understand that if something were to happen to us it would be a huge, huge fiasco for them," she said. "At the same time, what you worry about ... is that it's possible that someone decides to take matters into their own hands, believing it would be pleasing to the Russians."

Reporters need to take physical and digital security seriously in advance of doing sensitive stories, said Courtney Radsch, advocacy director for the Committee to Protect Journalists. Reporters, particularly women, have been the subject of online harassment but the use of video campaigns is relatively new, she said.

Recently, Iranian TV made a fictionalized series that mirrors the government's story about Washington Post journalist Jason Rezaian, who was held captive for nearly two years. Iran accused Rezaian of being a spy, as the fictional character is depicted.

Four days before Ward's report was scheduled to run, a "teaser" video asking "what is the dirty secret behind CNN's trip to Africa?" appeared on RIA FAN, or Federal News Agency, a news portal believed to be linked to Prigozhin. Days later, the site posted a 15-minute video charging that Ward offered people in Africa $100 to say something bad about Russia. Ward denies offering any bribes.

# FCC fines networks for wrongly using emergency alert system

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Jimmy Kimmel has learned an expensive lesson: don't mess with the government's emergency alert system.

Kimmel's network, ABC, was one of four media organizations fined by the Federal Communications Commission this week for improper use of the emergency signal that is sent over television, radio and mobile phones to warn people of danger like floods and fires. The $395,000 fine to ABC was by far the stiffest.

FCC rules prohibit the use of the signal for any purpose other than an actual emergency. The idea is to prevent confusion, the agency said Friday.

Kimmel used the signal three times as part of a skit on his show on Oct. 3, 2018.

Kimmel

ABC has signed a consent decree agreeing to pay the fine and promising not to improperly use the emergency tones again, the FCC announced Thursday.

AMC network agreed to pay a $104,000 fine for improper use of the signal in an episode of its most popular show, "The Walking Dead," in February, the FCC said.

Discovery's Animal Planet was fined $68,000 when an actual emergency signal sent to a mobile phone was picked up by cameras during a filming session for its show, "Lone Star Law." The show was filming Texas game wardens making rescues in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

Los Angeles radio stations KDAY and KDEY were fined $67,000 for using the signal in show promotions.

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Court rejects German girl's bid to join all-boys choir

**BERLIN** (AP)—A court in Germany has rejected a 9-year-old girl's bid to join a centuries-old Berlin boys choir. In its ruling Friday, the Berlin administrative court said the choir's right to choose its singers outweighed the principle of gender equality. The girl's lawyer, who is also her mother, claimed the State and Cathedral Choir had rejected her daughter's membership on the basis of gender. The choir, which has never admitted any girls since its founding in 1465 by Frederick II of Brandenburg, denied the allegation. It said the girl would have been asked to join if she had displayed extraordinary talent and motivation and "if her voice had matched the desired sound characteristics of a boys choir." German news agency dpa reported that judges said the girl can appeal the ruling.

### Elvis admirers remember his death 42 years ago with vigil

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.** (AP)—Elvis Presley fans carrying lit candles in the Tennessee night are visiting the rock 'n' roll icon's grave at Graceland during the annual vigil commemorating his death 42 years ago. Presley admirers from all over the world descend on Memphis every year to honor his life and career during Elvis Week. The vigil is the week's cornerstone event, with silent mourners filing slowly past his resting place and the graves of his parents and grandmother in the Meditation Garden at his former home, Graceland. The vigil started Thursday night and runs throughout the night into Friday. Presley died on Aug. 16, 1977. But the singer and actor's likeness and voice continue to appear in movies, TV shows, plays and music box sets. The Graceland tourist attraction draws about 500,000 visitors annually.

### Heather Locklear pleads no contest to fighting with deputies

**VENTURA, Calif.** (AP)—Heather Locklear has pleaded no contest to charges that she fought with first responders during two visits to her Southern California home last year. Locklear entered the plea in Ventura County court Friday afternoon to five counts of battery on a peace officer, one count of battery on emergency personnel and two counts of resisting, obstructing or delaying a peace officer. A judge sentenced her to 120 days in jail, but the sentence was stayed pending completion of a substance-abuse treatment program. The 57-year-old "Melrose Place" and "T.J. Hooker" actress was also sentenced to three years' probation. Deputies and paramedics answering calls about domestic disputes at Locklear's home in March and June of 2018 said that she pushed, kicked and shouted at them. Locklear's attorney declined comment.

### Eataly severs ties with Mario Batali amid misconduct scandal

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Chef Mario Batali, whose career crumbled amid sexual misconduct allegations, no longer owns a stake in Eataly, the Italian marketplaces he once heavily promoted. Chris Giglio, a spokesman for Eataly USA, told The Associated Press on Friday the company has purchased Batali's minority interest, formally ending the relationship. Batali has had no direct involvement with Eataly since December 2017, Giglio said. Batali, known for his orange Crocs and ponytail, has pleaded not guilty to a charge that he forcibly kissed and groped a woman at a Boston restaurant in 2017. The next court hearing in the case is scheduled for Aug. 30. Eataly USA has several locations, including a Manhattan flagship. Batali had already given up financial stakes in all his restaurants, severing a 20-year partnership with Joe Bastianich.

### 'Marvelous Mrs. Maisel' promotion jams up Los Angeles

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—A city-wide promotion in Los Angeles for a popular Amazon television series caused chaos when drivers lined up for hours to cash in on 1950s gas prices. Amazon partnered with nearly 30 businesses to roll back prices Thursday in honor of the show "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," set in the '50s, as part of an Emmy Awards campaign. Police had to shut down a 30-cents-per-gallon promotion at a Chevron gas station in Santa Monica after eager customers lining up caused traffic delays at the nearby westbound Santa Monica Freeway for hours. One motorist took to Twitter to complain, saying it would have been a better idea "if we had the same number of cars on the road as in the '50s." The show is nominated for 20 Emmy Awards. The Emmys will air Sept. 14.

# 'After the Wedding' was a family affair for Julianne Moore

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Julianne Moore is accustomed to working with her husband, director Bart Freundlich, on set, but it was a real family affair when their daughter joined them for their latest collaboration.

Liv Freundlich, 17, was a production assistant on "After the Wedding," which was released earlier this month.

"We loved having her around more than she loved being around," laughed Freundlich. "The best part of it was just getting to be with each other constantly."

The film, written and directed by Freundlich, is a remake of director Susanne Bier's hit Dutch movie of the same name. To put his own stamp on it, Freundlich swapped the gender of the two leads to women, using Moore and Michelle Williams. Billy Crudup plays a role that was portrayed by a woman in the original.

In the movie, Williams plays Isabel, an orphanage volunteer living in India who comes to the United States to ask Moore's character, Theresa, to fund her organization. She ends up attending a wedding for Theresa's daughter and meets Theresa's husband, played by Crudup, whom she has a history with.

Moore also served as a producer. Freundlich said it helps to be married collaborators because they don't compartmentalize their home life and work life. Moore joked it "might've been more fun for him."

"I'm usually used to going home and dropping it," said Moore. "It's sort of a relief for me to get in my car and be like, 'Phew, that's the end of my day and I'll think about tomorrow later,' but for a director it's constant. The amount of work that they have to do is really extraordinary. So, we would talk about it in the car on the way home, we would talk about it before we would go to bed, we would talk about it first thing in the morning. But, like I said it was a shared passion, too, so that was wonderful."

This is the fourth time the couple has worked together.

# Girl's maternal grandparents were never told of her birth

DEAR ABBY: My 7-year-old granddaughter, "Hannah," is the light of my life. Her mother walked out on her when she was 2, and her mother's parents don't know she exists. Her mother hid her pregnancy and delivery, and the child has lived with us since birth.

My heart has always broken for her maternal grandparents. I could not imagine not knowing Hannah and missing out on her life. I have always wanted to send them pictures or even introduce her to them (they don't live far from us). My husband says it's not our place, and we run the risk of them trying to get some kind of custody.

Currently, my son and Hannah's mother share legal custody, but he has full physical custody. There has been no communication from her mother in at least five years.

Hannah is starting to ask questions about her mother, and we have always been truthful with her. It will not be long before she puts things together and realizes she has another set of grandparents. Should we inform them about their grandchild?

HOLDING A SECRET IN THE EAST

**DEAR HOLDING: Because your son has full physical custody of Hannah, tell him about your concerns. Hannah's maternal grandparents have been in the dark for so long, the news of her existence is bound to be a bombshell. There's a reason why their daughter didn't want them to know about her, and as you pointed out, there could be legal ramifications. Because Hannah is now asking questions about her mother, her father should prepare to answer them for her. However well-intentioned you may be, this matter is for your son to deal with, not you.**

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a teen girl. "Chloe" and I have been friends since first grade. Even though we went to different high schools and have made other friends, we still remained close, spending summer vacations with each other's family.

We are now juniors in high school. Last summer she told me she's a lesbian and shared all her feelings with me. I understand her, and we're still close friends, sharing each other's secrets. Her family knows and accepts her sexual orientation as I and my family do.

Three months ago, she met a partner, and I was truly happy for her. Unfortunately, her partner must feel insecure about our friendship because she has turned Chloe against me. Chloe no longer returns my calls or texts.

I miss my friend and confidante badly and can't get over it. How can I get over my loss? I can't understand why we all can't be friends. I don't know what to do.

MISSING MY BESTIE IN FLORIDA

**DEAR MISSING: You can't "all be friends" because Chloe's girlfriend is threatened by the long-standing relationship you have had with her. This has nothing to do with you; it is a reflection of the girl's insecurity and possessiveness. If things don't work out with Chloe's girlfriend, there is a distinct possibility that she will be back in your life. Do not burn any bridges, but do continue to form relationships with other people. It will help to soothe the loneliness you are feeling.**

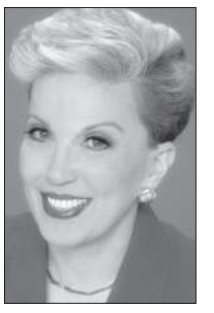
**DEAR ABBY:** I would like to throw a 70th birthday party for myself, but I don't want the guests to think I'm doing it to get presents. What should I do?

LOOKING TO HAVE FUN

**DEAR LOOKING: Include with the invitations: "The only present I require is the gift of your presence."**

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

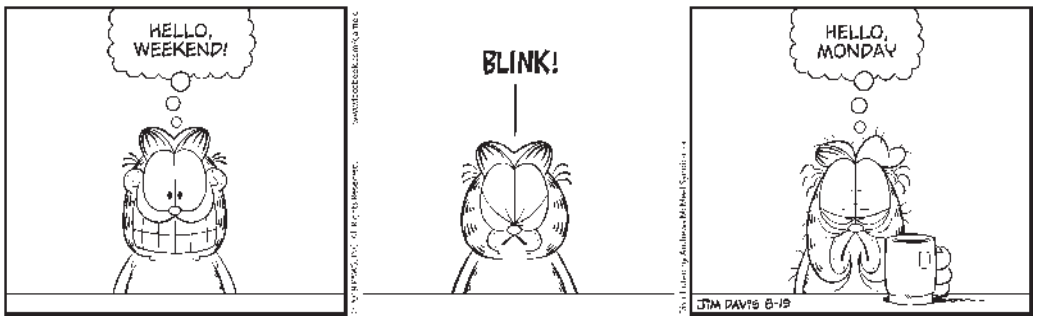
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

CALVIN THE HUMMINGBIRD ZIPS BY WITH A LOUD WHIR!
ALTHOUGH SMALL, HE PUTS OUT TREMENDOUS ENERGY. TO HOVER, HIS WINGS BEAT HUNDREDS OF TIMES EACH SECOND!
WHAT FUELS THIS INCREDIBLE METABOLISM? CONCENTRATED SUGAR WATER! HE DRINKS HALF HIS WEIGHT A DAY!
...PREFERABLY LOADED WITH CAFFEINE.
ARE YOU DRINKING MORE SODA POP?!

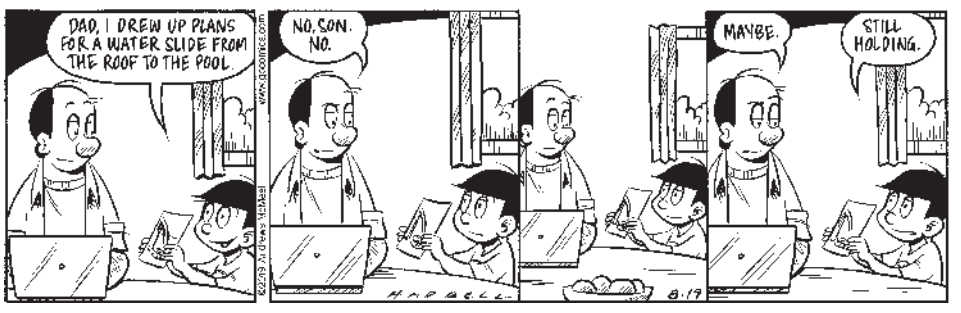
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis




## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset




## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

RRRRRRRR
YOU CANINES HAVE COME A LONG WAY FROM YOUR ANCESTORS THAT HAD TO HUNT FOR THEIR FOOD.
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW IT TOOK ME A GOOD THIRTY MINUTES TO FIND THIS BEHIND ALL THE FRUIT COCKTAIL.

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Taj Mahal city
5 Media mogul Turner
8 Did the crawl
12 Chinese city
14 Carton sealer
15 Trendy types
16 "Born Free" lioness
17 Triumphed
18 Hauled (away)
20 Ceremonies
23 Dossier
24 "Believe — not!"
25 Angler's wear
28 TiVo precursor
29 Workshop array
30 Slapstick missile
32 Pelvis part
34 Penny
35 "May I — favor?"
36 Sill
37 Bacon pieces
40 Sushi fish
41 Persia, today
42 On-the-go beverage holder
47 Loony
48 Evenly matched
49 911 responders
50 Menlo Park monogram
51 Trudge

**DOWN**

1 Fireplace residue
2 4, on a phone
3 Knock
4 Retort
5 Subsequently
6 Listener
7 Acolyte
8 Sound system
9 Mr. Disney
10 Church area
11 Hoover Dam lake
13 Classic Pontiacs
19 Priests' garments
20 Body of water (Abbr.)
21 Craving
22 Actress Spelling
23 "Shrek" princess
25 Basketball maneuver
26 Pundit's piece
27 Crystal-tapping sound
29 Recipe meas.
31 Tours season
33 Emulates Monet
34 Orchestral instruments
36 Departed
37 Faction
38 Streetcar
39 Huck's transport
40 Duel tool
43 — pickle
44 "You've got mail" co.
45 — -Cat
46 Beer barrel

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

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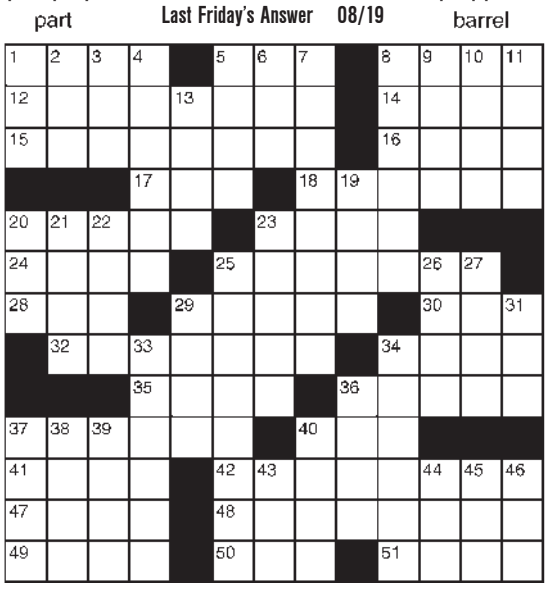
Last Friday's Answer 08/19



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Christina Perri, 33; Matthew Perry, 50; John Stamos, 56; Bill Clinton, 73.

**Happy Birthday:** Make long-term personal plans that will help you prepare for the future. Aim to stabilize your financial situation, update contracts and set up a routine that will encourage good health. Settle any pending problems so you can move forward with the freedom necessary to give your all to the goals you want to achieve. Personal gains are within reach. Your numbers are 6, 17, 23, 26, 36, 40, 46.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Do your own thing. Trust in what you know and the skills you have mastered to help you get ahead. Trying to get a free ride or investing in someone else's plan won't help you reach your goal. Personal growth is favored. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Make necessary changes. If you are too quick to make a move, you'll end up wishing you hadn't. Someone will take advantage of you if you are looking for a shortcut. Discipline and moderation will prevent loss. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* Look for the good in everyone and everything, but don't be gullible if someone tries to take advantage of you. Offer wisdom to get what you want. An opportunity will encourage personal improvements. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Be a friendly observer. Don't make a fuss or let your emotions interfere with what you need to accomplish. Diplomacy will be a much better approach if you want to get your way. Let others come to you. ✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take your time and adjust to changes with a positive attitude. You have plenty to gain if you are open to suggestions and implement what you want to happen. Protect your reputation, position and personal finances. ✪✪✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Put your plans into motion. The changes you bring about will have long-term effects that will improve your life. Stop letting others take advantage of you, and start living life your way. Moderation and minimalism are encouraged. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Reconnect with people who have been there for you. The suggestions made will help you deal with a situation that needs addressing at home or with a joint venture you are questioning. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Let experience be your guide. Don't give in to persuasive people who are using emotional tactics to convince you to make changes that aren't necessary or to your benefit. Stick to what and who you know and trust. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Make whatever changes are required to improve your standard of living or emotional comfort. Anger won't solve anything, but speaking up and taking responsibility for your life and how you want to live will. Romance will improve your state of mind. ✪✪✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Stifle any emotions that interfere with your accomplishments. Stay focused until you have physically put the changes in place that will make you feel less stressed and more in control of your life. Protect your assets and your reputation. ✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Listen to your heart, and make adjustments that will make you happy. Nurture meaningful relationships, and take physical action if it will help ward off a situation that has been hanging over your head. Personal improvement will lift your spirits. ✪✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* It's up to you to make an adjustment if you aren't happy. Revisiting what's happened in the past and the dreams you once had will help you put your life in perspective and your goals into play. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are poised, astute and helpful. You are diligent and persuasive.

*To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | | | 3 | | 1 | | | |
| | | | 8 | 2 | | 4 | | 9 |
| 7 | | 3 | | | | | 5 | |
| 8 | | | 1 | 9 | | 2 | | |
| | 2 | | | | | | 8 | |
| | | 7 | | 4 | 8 | | | 5 |
| | 5 | | | | | 6 | | 1 |
| 1 | | 4 | | 3 | 2 | | | |
| | | | 9 | | 5 | | | 3 |

Difficulty Level ★ 8/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 3 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 9 |
| 4 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| 8 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 1 |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| 1 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/17

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

JOHN SINGLETON (1968-2019) Solution: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | S | A | J | U | S | T | I | C | E | K | A | N | S | A |
| O | E | S | U | E | B | A | B | Y | B | O | Y | N | K | M |
| T | L | T | V | S | L | O | B | C | I | T | E | O | P | A |
| C | E | E | I | I | O | U | M | E | N | T | O | R | W | R |
| E | N | S | E | R | S | K | C | A | L | B | O | S | Z | D |
| R | E | H | U | I | W | N | A | O | M | D | R | Y | O | G |
| I | S | O | A | A | F | N | T | A | U | E | O | O | S | A |
| D | O | W | E | D | C | S | E | C | B | B | H | B | R | M |
| A | L | M | F | R | A | A | E | E | E | L | W | H | A | E |
| N | L | A | U | F | I | R | L | V | R | O | O | C | W | E |
| I | S | A | R | T | A | P | O | E | L | C | O | A | R | L |
| E | H | S | I | F | I | L | M | F | G | K | S | E | A | T |
| L | A | A | O | B | R | E | W | E | R | N | N | B | T | S |
| L | F | I | U | R | B | A | N | Y | N | N | A | D | S | U |
| T | T | E | S | S | A | B | L | A | I | R | H | I | G | H |

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Akosua, Angela, Baby Boy, Bassett, Beach Boys, Black, Blair High, Block, Book, Boyz, Brewer, Busia, Cause, Cleopatra, Daniel, Danny, Director, Drama, Empire, Fast, Film, Flow, Furious, Game, Hadar, Hood, Hustle, Inner, Justice, Love, Maasai, Mentor, Moan, Poetic, Producer, Rebel, Screenwriter, Selenesol, Seven, Shaft, Sheila, Show, Snake, Star Wars, Urban, Woo

**Last Friday's Answer: Strawberries**

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(2) Auto Mechanic** - Must have a Certificate of an Auto Mechanic. Atleast 1 year work experience. Excellent diagnostic / repair skills of vehicle systems.

**Submit Applications To:**
**AYD Services Inc.**
**AYD Compound, Beach Road,**
**San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950**
**Tel.# 235-7011**

WHATZIT Solution:
Good for nothing

**DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER**

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(2)Maintenance/Maintenance Technian** - Preferably knowledgeable in carpentry, electrical, mechanical and plumbing repairs.

**Submit Applications To:**
**AYD Services Inc.**
**AYD Compound, Beach Road, San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950**
**Tel.# 235-7011**

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CURRY ENTERPRISES, LLC
**1 CHEF AND HEAD COOK**
starting salary $13.87 to $19.00

Interested applicants,
pls call 233-3372
email: mabang1521@gmail.com

## PACIFIC SUNRISE CORPORATION

1 CHEF COOK
2 COOK
1 SUPERVISOR
3 WAITRESS

All interested us citizens can email their resume at psc237700@gmail.com or call 2337000 for more information located at Coral Avenue Garapan Pacific Sunrise building with P.O. BOX 504972 SAIPAN MP 96950

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**CFPJ Corporation**
(18) Maintenance
& Repair Workers, General
$8.33/per hr.

Interested applicants,
pls call 235-2375
email: cfpjcorp.2014@yahoo.com

## WAREHOUSE for RENT

**REM LOWERBASE**
**Warehouse #1 Size: 5,000sq/ft with built-in office & bathroom**
**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 234-0609 EXT. 158, 285-1317**

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Accounting Clerk - At least 1 yr. work experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Software.

Submit Applications To:
PAM PACIFIC ENTERPRISES CORP.
DBA Pena House Boutique and Salon
Ground Floor, Sablan Building, Chalan Kanoa
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 670-235-7270

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Beautician – Skilled in all areas of beauty treatments such as hair cut, hair colors/highlights/rebonding; waxing, manicure & pedicure,acrylic nails. Willing to work flexible time.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises corp. dba
Pena House Boutique and Salon
Ground Floor, Sablan Building, Beach Road,
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)235-7270

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(02) SALES PERSON - $8.57 to 8.88 per hour** plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Sell merchandise, such as furniture, motor vehicles and parts, appliances, or apparel to consumers. Greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs. Recommend, select, and help locate or obtain merchandise based on customer needs and desires. Compute sales prices, total purchases, and receive and process cash or credit payment. Prepare merchandise for purchase or rental. Answer questions regarding the store and its merchandise.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 12 months experience
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –Marianaslabor.net.

**APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **Environmental Health and Safety Manager** $10. 65 to 10.65 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Review, evaluate, and analyze work environments and design programs and procedures to control, eliminate, and prevent disease or injury caused by chemical, physical, and biological agents or ergonomic factors. May conduct inspections and enforce adherence to laws and regulations governing the health and safety of individuals. May be employed in the public or private sector. Includes environmental protection officers. Order suspension of activities that pose threats to workers' health or safety. Investigate accidents to identify causes or to determine how such accidents might be prevented in the future. Recommend measures to help protect workers from potentially hazardous work methods, processes, or materials. Inspect or evaluate workplace environments, equipment, or practices to ensure compliance with safety standards and government regulations. Develop or maintain hygiene programs, such as noise surveys, continuous atmosphere monitoring, ventilation surveys, or asbestos management plans.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- Bachelor's Degree;
- At least 24 months experience in safety standards;
- Must possess various safety training certificates.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(4) **CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN** 14.18 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of engineering staff or physical scientists. Calculate dimensions, square footage, profile and component specifications, and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review project blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects and to ensure conformance to specifications. Confer with supervisor to determine project details such as plan preparation, acceptance testing, and evaluation of field conditions. Analyze proposed site factors and design maps, graphs, tracings, and diagrams to illustrate findings.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- Associate Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in practical application of Engineering Science and Technology

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(30) **CARPENTER/LABOR** $9.76 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Help carpenters by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Clean work areas, machines, or equipment, to maintain a clean and safe job site. Fasten timbers or lumber with glue, screws, pegs, or nails and install hardware. Perform tie spacing layout and measure, mark, drill or cut. Select tools, equipment, or materials from storage and transport items to work site. Drill holes in timbers or lumber.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) **Auto Technician** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(04) **Interior Designer** - $8.48 to 9.32 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Plan, design, and furnish interiors of residential, commercial, or industrial buildings. Formulate design which is practical, aesthetic, and conducive to intended purposes, such as raising productivity, selling merchandise, or improving life style. May specialize in a particular field, style, or phase of interior design. Design plans to be safe and to be compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Coordinate with other professionals, such as contractors, architects, engineers, and lumbers, to ensure job success. Inspect construction work on site to ensure its adherence to the design plans. Use computer-aided drafting (CAD) and related software to produce construction documents. Advise client on interior design factors such as space planning, layout and use of furnishings or equipment, and color coordination.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
Bachelor's Degree;
At least 24 months experience;
Must have knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in the production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(12) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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*Faith, Hope and* KARIDAT

**A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service**
**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

## ONE (1) SHELTER WORKER

For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat Main Office at Old Sister Remedios Bldg.

*DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:* Complete application form, copy of diploma, resume, current police clearance and a copy of valid driver's license.

NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.
**CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019 AT 4:00PM**

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(06) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(05) SERVICE TECHNICIAN**- $10.58 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40hrs.a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Help plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, or pipelayers by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Measure, cut, thread and assemble new pipe, placing the assembled pipe in hangers or other supports. Cut or drill holes in walls or floors to accommodate the passage of pipes. Perform rough-ins, repair and replace fixtures and water heaters, and locate, repair, or remove leaking or broken pipes. Assist pipe fitters in the layout, assembly, and installation of piping for air, ammonia, gas, and water systems. Cut pipe and lift up to fitters. Fit or assist in fitting valves, couplings, or assemblies to tanks, pumps, or systems, using hand tools. Requisition tools and equipment, select type and size of the pipe, and collect and transport materials and equipment to work site. Mount brackets and hangers on walls and ceilings to hold pipes, and set sleeves or inserts to provide support for pipes. Excavate and grade ditches, and lay and join pipe for water and sewer service. Disassemble and remove the damaged or worn pipe.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(04) **Warehouse worker** - $7.93 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Receive, store, and issue materials, equipment, and other items from stockroom, warehouse, or storage yard. Keep records and compile stock reports. Pack and unpack items to be stocked on shelves in stockrooms, warehouses, or storage yards. Store items in an orderly and accessible manner in warehouses, tool rooms, supply rooms, or other areas. Examine and inspect stock items for wear or defects, reporting any damage to supervisors. Receive and count stock items, and record data manually or using a computer. Mark stock items using identification tags, stamps, electric marking tools, or other labeling equipment.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
High School Graduate;
At least 12 months experience;
Must have knowledge in the inventory of construction materials and tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **STEEL WORKERS** $14.53 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Raise, place, and unite iron or steel girders, columns, and other structural members to form completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Read specifications or blueprints to determine the locations, quantities, or sizes of materials required. Connect columns, beams, and girders with bolts, following blueprints and instructions from supervisors. Bolt aligned structural steel members in position for permanent riveting, bolting, or welding into place. Fasten structural steel members to hoist cables, using chains, cables, or rope. Hoist steel beams, girders, or columns into place, using cranes or signaling hoisting equipment operators to lift and position structural steel members.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## YCO Corporation is looking for the following position:

**Hardware Sales Associate**
Qualification Requirements: Knowledge of business and management involve customer service, production methods, Knowledge in computer system. e.g data base, word, excel, rock solid, POS and other computer software. Familiar Hardware products. Good in oral comprehension, sales and marketing. 12 months work related experience with High School diploma. Salary: $8.57/hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deductions all required by CNMI and Federal Law. From Mon-Sat. 36 hr/week 6 hr/day.

**Office Supervisor**
Qualification Requirements: Knowledge in Computer systems and Electronics such as peach tree, rock solid, microsoft excel, word, access, power point, data base and computer system. Knowledge of business management involve in strategic planning, human resources, leadership technique, production method. Good in customer and personal service. Ability in oral comprehension & expression and written comprehension. With Employment Certificate as office supervisor. Employment certificate will be applied equally to both U.S. Workers and CW-1 workers. At least 24 months work related experience with Associate Degree. Salary $12.41/hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deduction all required by CNMI and Federal Law. From Mon-Fri. 36hr/week/7 hr /day.

**Dept Hardware Sale Supervisor**
Qualification Requirements: Good in customer service, marketing expertise, good in computer e.g data base, rock solid system, excel, word, and other computer program, Familiar in hardware product, knowledge of business and management principle, leadership, production methods, Service oriented. Physically fit, Can able to drive. Knowledge in inventory system. Salary: $8.55-9.20/hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deduction: All required by CNMI and Federal Law. Frm: Mon-Sun 7 hrs a day(flexible time and day). 36 hrs /week.

**Electrician**
Qualification Requirements: At least 24 months work related experience with Associate Degree. Knowledge in all aspect of electrical .eg. installation, plan, lay out, repair, trouble shooting, inspect electrical or electronics system for defects. Good in computer system, data base, Microsoft excel, word, peach tree system, drafting. Knowledge in sales and marketing of electrical product. Good in customer service, with electrical license and diploma and with driver license. Salary: 9:60 hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deduction: All required by CNMI and Federal Law. From: Mon-Sat 6 hrs. / day, 36 hrs. /week.

Applicant may submit application to 2nd flr Yumul bldg. Mnsgr Guerrero Rd Chalan Kiya Saipan MP 96950 or email to ycocorporationlabor@yahoo.com. From Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. Tel (670)233-3112/3.

## YCO Corporation is looking for the following position:

Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
Knowledge in equipment maintenance, repairing, troubleshooting, equipment selection or determining the kind of tools and equipment needed to do a job. Physically fit, with valid drivers license. Must be at least 24 months work related experience with high school diploma. Salary: $8.11 to 9.00/hr. Monday to Friday, 36hr/week, 7 hrs/day. This position is temporary, full time position. There is 1 job opening intent to fill.

Accounting Associate
Atleast 24 months work related experience with High School Diploma, Proficient in microsoft software programs and accounting software such as quick book and peachtree. Knowledge on US generally accepted accounting principles. Comply with Federal State and company policies procedures and Regulations. Compile statistical, financial, accounting or auditing reports and tables pertaining to such cash receipts, expenditures, accounts payables procedures. Proficient in the English language (verbal, written and reading). Active listening, critical thinking. With Certificate of employment. The required employment certificate will be applied equally to both U.S. workers and CW workers. Salary: $9.87/hr. 36 hrs./week, 7 hrs./day. From Monday to Friday. This position is temporary, full time position. There is 1 job opportunity intent to fill with this position.

Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Driver
Required commercial driver license, physically fit with truck driver certificate. Knowledge in record operational or production data, record service or repair activities. Atleast 12 months work related experience with High School Diploma. Salary: $8.00/hr. /hr.36 hrs./week,6 hrs./day Monday to Saturday This position is temporary, full time position. There is 1 job opportunity intent to fill with this position.

Auto Mechanics/Technician
At least 24 months working related experience with High School diploma. Knowledge in repairing, troubleshooting opertation and control, ability of critical thinking and judgement and decision making. Knowledge in sales and marketing of automotive items. Knowledge of machines and tools, including their design, uses, repair and maintenance. Knowledge in customer and personal service. Must have a updated drivers license, physically fit with auto mechanic certificate equal to both US worker and CW-1 worker. Salary: $8.02 to 8.30/hr, 36hr per week, 7 hrs./day. Monday to Friday. This job opportunity is temporary, full time position. There is one (1) job opening the employer to fill.

Applicant may submit application to 2nd flr Yumul bldg. Mnsgr Guerrero Rd Chalan Kiya Saipan MP 96950 or email to ycocorporationlabor@yahoo.com. From Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. Tel (670)233-3112/3.

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# Yankees erupt at umpires, defeat Indians

NEW YORK (AP)—Manager Aaron Boone, Brett Gardner and the New York Yankees again hammered away at the umpires, this time in prolonged rants that brought several members of the team spilling onto the field, while beating the Cleveland Indians Saturday, 6-5.

Gleyber Torres hit two home runs and Didi Gregorius and DJ LeMahieu also connected for the AL East-leading Yankees.

But what really fired up the crowd of 47,347 at Yankee Stadium occurred in the sixth inning after Cameron Maybin was called out on strikes by Triple-A ump Ben May.

For the third time in a month—each time with a minor league call-up umpire behind the plate—the team with the best record in American League lost its temper in a big way. This episode led to Boone, Gardner and pitcher CC Sabathia being ejected.

James Paxton (9-6) went five innings for the win. Zach Plesac (6-4) was chased in the fifth.

Aroldis Chapman closed for his 35th save in 40 chances.

AP

Cleveland Indians' Jose Ramirez, left, slides to second base for a double as New York Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius, center, catches the ball during the seventh inning of a baseball game Saturday, Aug. 17, 2019, in New York.

## Cubs 2, Pirates 0

In Pittsburgh, Kris Bryant homered in the seventh inning, and Chicago got out of three bases-loaded jams to snap a four-game skid and beat the Pirates.

After committing an error at third base each of the previous two innings, Bryant drove the first pitch of the seventh from Steven Brault (3-2) into the left-field bleachers to put Chicago ahead 1-0. It was Bryant's 25th homer this season and third in five games.

Jon Lester (10-8) gave up four hits and five walks in six innings, getting out of two bases-loaded jams unscathed.

## Reds 6, Cardinals 1

In Cincinnati, Aristides Aquino hit a three-run homer, Nick Senzel added a leadoff shot and the Reds dropped St. Louis back into a tie with Chicago for first place in the NL Central.

Aquino's blast off Miles Mikolas (7-13) gave the Reds a 5-1 lead in the fifth. It was the rookie's 11th homer in his 17th career game.

Anthony DeSclafani (8-7) worked five innings, allowing Matt Carpenter's second-inning homer.

## Rays 1, Tigers 0, 13 innings

In St. Petersburg, Mike Brosseau's pinch-hit RBI single in the 13th inning drove in Eric Sogard and gave Tampa Bay the win over Detroit.

Sogard doubled off Matt Hall (0-1) with two outs and Tommy Pham was intentionally walked. Brosseau singled to right-center field for the Rays' first run since Wednesday, ending a streak of 29 scoreless innings.

Rays pitchers struck out a franchise-record 24 batters, including 13 in 20 hitless at bats against relievers. Poche (3-4) got the win after striking out two of the three Tigers he faced in the 13th.

## Mets 4, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Jacob deGrom pitched seven sharp innings and Pete Alonso put New York ahead with a two-run single in its win over the Royals.

Alonso got three hits and snapped a 1-all tie with two outs in the seventh when he rolled a bases-loaded grounder up the middle. Juan Lagares, who also had three hits, added an RBI triple in the eighth.

Last year's NL Cy Young Award winner, deGrom (8-7) gave up one run and three hits while striking out five.

Royals starter Jakob Junis (8-11) allowed a one-out single to Lagares in the seventh and hit No. 9 batter Aaron Altherr with a pitch before he was pulled.

## Athletics 8, Astros 4

In Oakland, Matt Chapman doubled among his three hits and Mark Canha had two hits and three RBIs to back Chris Bassitt's six solid innings, and Oakland beat Houston.

Matt Olson and Josh Phegley each had two hits for Oakland. The A's have won four straight games and 11 of their last 16.

Bassitt (9-5) gave up three runs and eight hits with two walks. In seven starts since the All-Star break he's 4-1 with a 2.36 ERA.

## Red Sox 4, Orioles 0

In Boston, Eduardo Rodríguez pitched 7 1/3 stellar innings, red-hot Rafael Devers belted a two-run homer and Boston beat Baltimore for its fourth straight victory.

Trey Mancini had a double—his eighth straight game in Fenway Park with an extra-base hit—for the Orioles, who have dropped six straight.

Rodríguez (14-5) allowed four hits, struck out four, walked two and hit a batter in setting his career high for wins in a season.

Asher Wojciechowski (2-6) gave up two runs in 4 1/3 innings.

## Padres 5, Phillies 3

In Philadelphia, Dinelson Lamet pitched six solid innings, Ty France hit a tie-breaking single and San Diego cooled off the Phillies.

Lamet (2-2) allowed three runs and six hits with six strikeouts and a walk.

Eric Hosmer had three hits for the Padres, and Josh Naylor tied the game with a two-run double in the fourth.

J.T. Realmuto homered for the Phillies, who lost for the first time since former manager Charlie Manuel returned as hitting coach on Tuesday.

The Padres went in front with a pair of runs in the fifth off reliever Nick Pivetta (4-5).

## Mariners 4, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Kyle Seager hit a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning, Austin Nola also went deep, and Seattle beat the Blue Jays.

Seager's two-out drive off the right field foul screen came on the first pitch from left-hander Tim Mayza (1-2).

Seattle won for the third time in five games after losing eight of the previous nine.

Anthony Bass (2-4) worked one inning for the win and Matt Magill pitched around a two-out double in the ninth to earn his first career save.

## Giants 11, Diamondbacks 6

In Phoenix, Logan Webb found himself in the middle of a playoff race, and was up to the challenge.

The 22-year-old right-hander survived a rocky start and pitched five innings to win his major league debut, leading the San Francisco Giants to a victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks

"It was awesome. Everyone here wants to win. I want to win more than anything," Webb said. "So if I can help out in any way possible, that's the main goal."

Brandon Belt hit a grand slam and tied a career high with six RBIs as the Giants won their third straight game and sixth in the past seven to continue their surge into serious National League wild-card contention.

## Angels 6, White Sox 5

In Anaheim, Mike Trout and Brian Goodwin drove in two runs apiece, and the Los Angeles Angels scored four in the seventh inning to rally past the Chicago White Sox.

Los Angeles sent 10 batters to the plate in the seventh and scored off four Chicago pitchers. Trout lined a bases-loaded single to left field to knock in two runs, and Justin Upton tied it with a sharp grounder that went under the glove of third baseman Ryan Goins.

Trout scored the go-ahead run when Goodwin drew a bases-loaded walk from Evan Marshall (3-2) with two outs.

## Brewers 15, Nationals 14

In Washington Eric Thames hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the 14th inning, and the Milwaukee Brewers finally held on for a wild victory over the Nationals.

Christian Yelich hit two home runs, tying for the major league lead with 41, and the Brewers equaled their franchise record with seven. Thames' blast off Javy Guerra (1-1) was the last of them in a 5-hour, 40-minute marathon between National League playoff contenders that featured 38 hits, 17 pitching changes, 11 home runs and blown saves by both teams' closers.

Yelich went 5 for 6 with four RBIs, breaking out of a 1-for-16 slump since returning from a back injury that cost him four games.

## Twins 12, Rangers 7

In Arlington, C.J. Cron had a two-run home in Minnesota's six-run first inning, and the Twins went on to beat the Texas Rangers.

Tyler Duffey (4-1) earned the win by retiring the last two batters of the fifth inning to leave the bases loaded. It became the second victory he got on the day because hours before the game he was awarded a win for Minnesota's 4-3 victory Friday night that originally was credited to Sam Dyson.

The Twins increased their lead in the AL Central Division to 2 1/2 games, their largest since Aug. 6.

The Rangers have lost nine of their last 11 games and are three games under .500 for the first time since May 18.

## Rockies 11, Marlins 4

In Denver, Ryan McMahon is emerging as another home run hitter in a Colorado lineup loaded with big bats.

The second baseman continued his power surge with two more long balls to help the Rockies beat the Miami Marlins for their first three-game winning streak in two months.

McMahon has homered in three straight games and four of his last five to set a career high with 17. He has four home runs on the current homestand.

"I feel like I'm in a good spot," he said. "We've won the last couple of games, it feels good, good vibe around here now and hopefully we keep that rolling."

The Rockies have a chance to sweep a series for the first time since taking three games against Arizona from June 18-20, which is the last time they had a three-game winning streak.

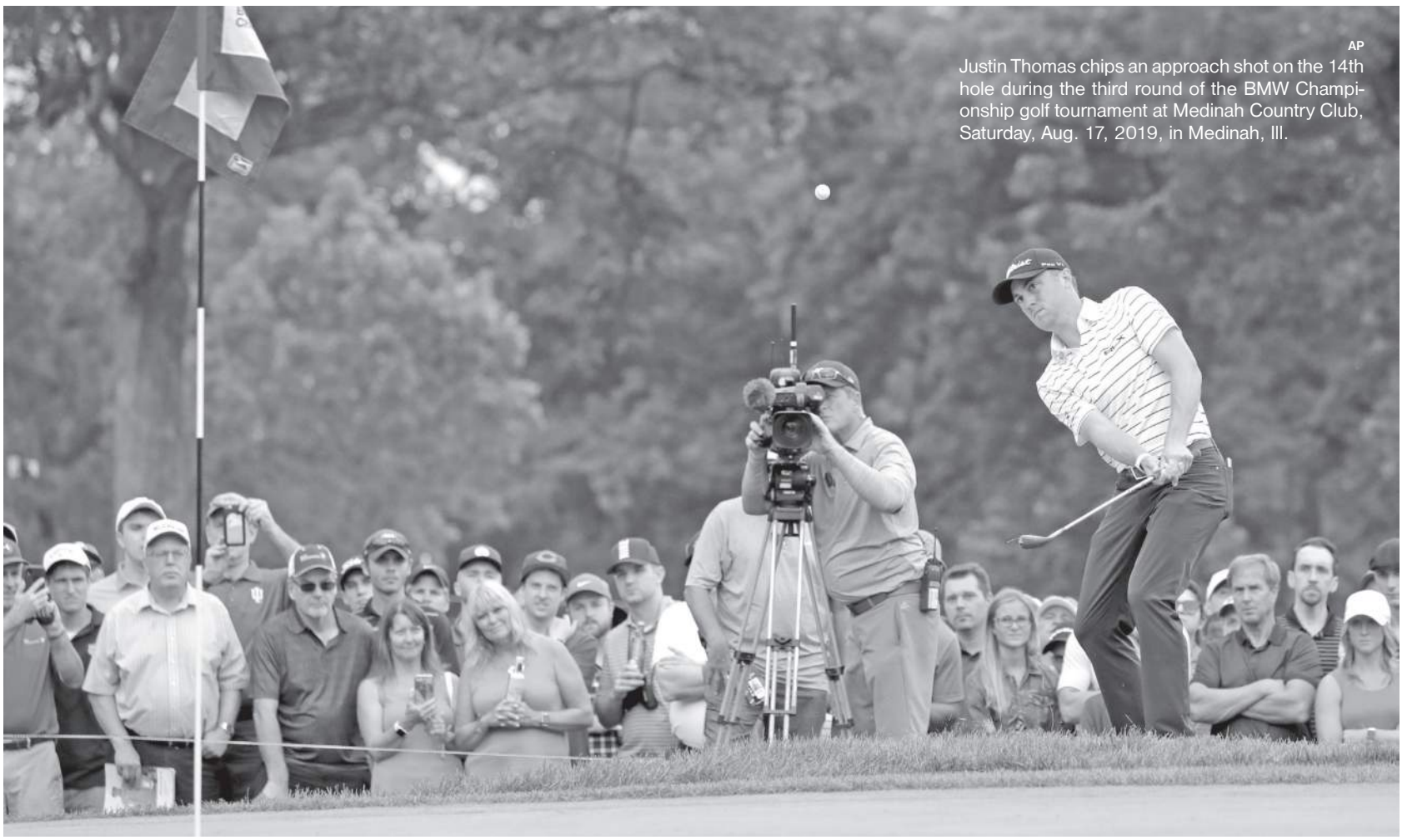
## Braves 4, Dodgers 3

In Atlanta, Braves reliever Luke Jackson summed up his team's mindset against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"They're kind of like our David and Goliath, you know?" Jackson said. "Whenever we've gone out there it's been rough. They're a good team, we're a good team, 1-2, just duking it out. It's nice to pull out wins like this."

Josh Donaldson and Adam Duvall hit consecutive homers off Hyun-Jin Ryu in the sixth inning, the faulty Atlanta bullpen redeemed itself for a change, and the Braves finally beat Los Angeles.

# Thomas shatters course record at Medinah



AP

Justin Thomas chips an approach shot on the 14th hole during the third round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Medinah Country Club, Saturday, Aug. 17, 2019, in Medinah, Ill.

**MEDINAH, Ill.** (AP)—Winless over the last 12 months, Justin Thomas knew he was playing well and he was due for a low round.

Saturday at the BMW Championship was more than he might have imagined.

Thomas smashed the course record at Medinah with an 11-under 61 that gave him a six-shot lead over Patrick Cantlay and Tony Finau.

He opened with five birdies, and none was worthy of a highlight reel because of what followed. He hit a 5-wood from 260 yards on the par-5 10th that was so pure he twirled his club and watched it roll out to 2 feet.

That wasn't among the top three memories Saturday.

"I'm very lucky that I had a couple to choose from today," Thomas said.

In fluffy grass behind the 14th green, he chipped in for birdie. From 180 yards in the 16th fairway, he holed out for eagle.

His felt his best shot was the next hole, a 9-iron from forward tees to a front pin over the water to 6 feet for his eighth birdie of a remarkable round.

"It was easy to get pretty wrapped up in the emotions and get the adrenaline going and I had to take a little bit off that 9-iron," Thomas said. "If I'm trying to be perfect there and I don't hit it right, that very easily could go in the water."

Thomas was at 21-under 195, with Finau (68) and Cantlay (67) chasing him. He has a clear path to his first victory since the Bridgestone Invitational last August, along with the lead going into the Tour Championship next week and the chase for a $15 million prize.

Only seven players in PGA Tour history have lost a six-shot lead in the final round, most recently Dustin Johnson at the 2017 HSBC Champions.

Thomas, who shot 59 at the Sony Open in 2017, opened with a pair of 12-foot birdie putts, hit to 2 feet on No. 3, holed a 15-footer on No. 4 and was out of position only briefly before a fifth straight birdie on the par-5 fifth. But it was the back nine where Thomas seized control.

"I've been around enough. That was really impressive," said Finau, who played with Thomas. "It's fun to watch. Whenever you see a guy playing that well in a zone, really cool. He was already playing well and that shot on 16 put him over the top from well to ... really well."

Finau holed out from the fourth fairway for eagle. Cantlay had five birdies. Brandt Snedeker chipped in on both par 3s on the back nine in his round of 67.

Low scores were everywhere.

Medinah never looked more vulnerable.

"It doesn't matter what golf course it is," Thomas said. "You give us soft, good greens and soft fairways, we're going to tear it apart. It's just how it is."

All but two players in the 69-man field—Harold Varner III and Cameron Champ—were at par or better.

In five majors held at Medinah, the lowest score was a 65. That was matched twice Thursday by Thomas and Jason Kokrak. Hideki Matsuyama set the standard with a 63 on Friday. Thomas beat that by two.

"I hope the trend doesn't continue unless it's me," Thomas said with a grin.

For others, plenty is at stake.

Rory Sabbatini shot 30 on the back nine—four birdies over his last five holes—and was alone in fourth. That would be enough to get him into the Tour Championship for the first time since 2007, the first year of the FedEx Cup.

"I kind of had a target in mind and I'm a couple shots shy of getting there, and so tomorrow I have to go grind it out and really put my foot down," Sabbatini said.

Finau could lock up a spot on the Presidents Cup team if he were to keep his position, even better if he were to finish alone in second. Lucas Glover was nine shots behind, but still projected to be among the top 30.

The perks of the Tour Championship include a chase for a $15 million top prize, along with a spot in all the majors next year. For Thomas, winning means a return to Maui to start the year with the rest of the PGA Tour winners. That's what he's thinking about Sunday.

Starting times have been moved up because of more rain in the forecast. Without wind, that has meant lower scoring that Medinah has ever seen.

# *Tiger shoots 67 in third round to stay alive*

**MEDINAH, Ill.**—Tiger Woods still has a chance to get to Atlanta.

While the odds are long against him, he's not between a rock and a hard place as he tries to get to next week's season-ending Tour Championship at East Lake in Atlanta. With a bogey-free, 5-under-par 67 Saturday in the third round of the BMW Championship at Medinah Country Club, Woods remained in the picture to get back to East Lake to defend his title.

His victory last year in the Tour Championship was his first PGA Tour title since 2013 and was a stunning conclusion to his remarkable comeback.

"I felt good," said Woods, who is at 7 under after rounds of 71-71-67. "Basically, the only difference between today and last couple of days I was able to clean up the card. I didn't have any stupid mistakes where I made bogey from bad spots or from easy spots. I did the little things that was able to keep the momentum going and made a couple putts here and there.

"At least, I've got a shot at it."

The 67 was just Woods' third round in the 60s since he won the Masters in April. And it was the first time he went bogey-free since last year's BMW Championship at Aronimink in Pennsylvania.

Woods likely will need to shoot lower than 67 in Sunday's final round to put him in the top 30 players in the standings who will head to East Lake. When he left the course Saturday, he was projected in 43rd place. It's doable - this week, there has been a course-record 61, a 63, a 64 and three 65s.

Projections have Woods, who is tied for 31st, needing to finish in a sixth-place tie or better to qualify for East Lake, according to the PGA Tour.

AP

Tiger Woods catches the ball from his caddie, Joe LaCava, on the 12th hole during the third round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Medinah Country Club, Saturday, Aug. 17, 2019, in Medinah, Ill.

"I figure I'm going to have to do something in the mid-60s for two straight days here," he said. "Left myself pretty far behind after the first two rounds. What's more amazing is how many guys are under par on this golf course.

"We all thought this was one of the more tough and bigger ballparks, and the whole field is playing well. There's normally a few guys that are struggling. The entire field is playing well is something that we're all pretty surprised at."

So many playing so well doesn't help his chances. Nor does Medinah playing so soft after recent storms. But Woods said he's feeling as well as he has since the Masters, and not even a weather delay of 1 hour, 16 minutes got to him in Saturday's third round.

"Things I'm working on in my game definitely make me feel a little bit better," Woods said. "But it's just one of those things where some days I feel better than others, but also, then again, it's what I do with the golf club, too. Able to swing the club properly. Body feels better."

And Woods will feel a whole lot better if he does fire a 64 Sunday and earn a spot in Atlanta. His win last year—the 80th of his career—remains fresh in his mind. Especially Sunday's final round when he battled Justin Rose and Rory McIlroy down the stretch and then led thousands of fans on the 18th fairway to the final green.

"It has been in the back of my mind to get there," Woods said. "I want to get to the Tour Championship where I got a chance to win our Cup. And on top of that, that's where the entire summer of work (last year), the body of work finally culminated in a win. Having a chance at the British Open and PGA, played a good round at Aronimink.

"Things were trending in the right direction and I put it altogether for one week … just the way it all ended, coming back and then winning on the last hole, the last event that I'm going to play, it just was a pretty cool ending."

# Barty upset in Cincy; Djokovic also knocked out

AP

Novak Djokovic of Serbia reaches for a shot from Daniil Medvedev of Russia during the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament Saturday, Aug. 17, 2019, in Mason, Ohio.

**MASON, Ohio** (AP)—Ashleigh Barty's chance to move back to No. 1 was only one victory away. At the end of an up-and-down week, she didn't have another comeback left.

Neither did Novak Djokovic, who came away with yet another disappointment in Cincinnati.

Barty lost to Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-2, 6-4 in the semifinals of the Western & Southern Open on Saturday. Djokovic ended the day with another stunner, getting overwhelmed by Daniil Medvedev's serve as the Russian pulled off 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 victory.

It's been that kind of week in Cincinnati, with top players in both brackets either struggling or hurt heading into the U.S. Open.

The women's bracket has a lot questions with New York just around the corner. No. 1 isn't one of them.

Barty's seven-week run atop the field ended when Naomi Osaka edged ahead of her in the latest ranking. A victory Saturday would have moved Barty back ahead for the U.S. Open. Instead, she dropped the opening set for the third straight match and this time, there was no digging out.

"A week that we battled through," Barty said. "I think at times I played some good stuff. At times, I played some pretty awful stuff."

Which will it be for Barty at the Open? And will Osaka be in good enough shape to defend her title?

Osaka dropped out of her semifinal match Friday with discomfort in her left knee that caused her worry. She still plans to play in New York, but it's unclear whether the knee will be a problem.

And then there's Serena Williams, who retired in the finals at Toronto last Sunday because of back spasms. She also withdrew from Cincinnati before her first match, but stuck around to cheer sister Venus until her loss in the quarterfinals.

A resurgent Kuznetsova gave Barty no openings, knocking off a top-five player for the second time this week to reach her first final of the season. The 153rd-ranked player is recovering from seven-month layoff because of a knee injury.

In her ninth tournament of the season, she got her game together, winning her first Premier-level semifinal since 2017 at Madrid.

"Well, sometimes in life it's like this," Kuznetsova said. "It's like really small things change everything. Definitely it's different momentum I have now."

She'll face Madison Keys , who beat Sofia Kenin 7-5, 6-4 with the help of 14 aces. Keys ended her streak of failing to make it past the second round of her last three tournaments, playing through heat and humidity all week without problem.

"I feel really good" she said. "Every day I'm kind of waking up, hoping that everything still feels like it's in one piece and it feels really good."

In the men's bracket, Djokovic overcame concerns about his right elbow but couldn't prevail over Medvedev's 14 aces, some of them on 128 mph second serves. Djokovic had to problem with his right elbow, which tightened on Friday night.

Djokovic won the tournament for the first time last year, getting the only Masters 1000 title that had eluded him. He felt good about his chances heading into the U.S. Open.

"I see mostly positives in my game," Djokovic said. "Today I did lose a match, but I didn't do too much wrong. I lost to a player who was playing amazing."

Medvedev reached the final at Montreal last week and lost to Rafael Nadal. He's back to a title match again after fighting off a break point midway through the second set and closing with a flurry, winning 12 of the last 14 points to even the match and take the momentum.

He'll face David Goffin, who reached his first Masters 1000 final by beating Richard Gasquet 6-3, 6-4 . Goffin also is on an upswing after falling to No. 33 in the ATP rankings on June 10, his lowest since September 2014.

"Of course, it was a tough period there," Goffin said. "I was coming back from injuries. I had some trouble with my confidence. I couldn't find my rhythm, my game. So it's great now. I'm feeling great. I'm back at my best tennis."

The men's bracket also took several notable hits throughout the week.

Originally billed as a reunion of the Big Four—Djokovic, Nadal, Roger Federer and Andy Murray together for the first time since January—it quickly lost its luster. Nadal dropped out after winning the Rogers Cup, citing fatigue. Murray played singles for the first time since hip surgery in January and lost his opening match.

And Federer, the seven-time champion, failed to reach the weekend, losing in the quarterfinals.

# NY Giants quarterback impresses in second game

**EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.** (AP)—For the first time in about a decade, the New York Giants seemingly don't have to worry about Eli Manning getting hurt.

In just two preseason games, first-round draft pick and heir apparent Daniel Jones has shown he can play in the NFL.

Take a look at the statistics. Jones is 16 of 19 for 228 yards and two touchdowns. He's completed 84.2% of his passes with a 151.8 quarterback rating.

No one ever would have felt the same about former backups Geno Smith, Alex Tanney, Davis Webb, Josh Johnson, Ryan Nassib or Kyle Lauletta in recent years.

Jones has changed that feeling by his play.

When he takes over remains to be seen.

Giants co-owner John Mara said recently he would love to see Manning remain the starter all season and for Jones not to play. Coach Pat Shurmur seconded that approach after New York won its second straight game.

So far, there is no need to make the move. Manning has looked good playing just two series. He had a three-and-out against the Jets and hit all four of his passes in engineering a first-drive touchdown against the Bears. He is 5 of 5 for 42 yards and a TD. His quarterback rating is 143.8.

Shurmur has said Jones is getting ready to play. On Saturday, in discussing the Giants' 32-13 win over Chicago on Friday night, the coach refused to say if Jones was ready.

"I think when his time comes, he's going to be ready," Shurmur said. "I still think we've got training camp left to push through, we've got preseason games left to push through. I would say right now, we're three weeks from any of us being ready, so that's sort of where we're at. We've got work to do, and so that's how I approach that. That would be my answer to that question, I guess."

Jones wasn't perfect against the Bears. He lost two fumbles. The first came when he and center Jon Halapio failed to get together on a snap in the red zone. The second came after he was sacked, the result on not keeping two hands on the ball.

"You don't want to make any mistakes, but I think it was going to happen and you realize that," Jones said after the game. "There are going to be some mistakes and just figuring that out sometimes. I didn't try to make any mistakes."

After watching video of the game, Shurmur felt the Giants were a little loose with the ball overall. TJ Jones, who caught a touchdown pass from Daniel Jones on Friday, muffed a punt. Linebacker Nate Stupar dropped an interception, and the Giants' receivers dropped three other passers. Running back Rod Smith also had a fumble.

"Those are all correctable, every one of those, and those are the things that we will continue to focus on as we go through camp," Shurmur said.

If there is a concern for Shurmur, it has to be the defense. The first unit gave up a touchdown to Sam Darnold and the Jets on the opening drive in the first game, and backup Chase Daniel led Chicago's second offensive unit to a field goal on the opening series.

The Bears did not play their starters.

Shurmur downplayed the fast starts, noting the defense limited the Bears to one touchdown and two field goals and had eight 3-out-series.

"There were many things that were good," Shurmur said. "Certainly, you don't want anybody to score on the first drive, but I think there was an improvement this game, we forced them to kick a field goal, so I don't see a trend there. Like everything, though, we're fighting to get better in all areas throughout the game."

At least Jones seems to be ready.

## QB McCown joins Eagles, ends retirement

In Philadelphia, Josh McCown's retirement lasted two months.

The Philadelphia Eagles signed the 40-year-old quarterback to a one-year deal on Saturday. He is coming out of retirement to join his 11th team and play his 17th season.

McCown provides insurance behind Carson Wentz, who has finished the past two seasons on the sideline because of injuries. The Eagles already lost two quarterbacks in the first two preseason games. Nate Sudfeld broke his left wrist and is expected to return in September. Cody Kessler left Thursday night's game with a head injury.

Rookie Clayton Thorson was the only healthy quarterback on the roster behind Wentz before McCown ended his brief retirement.

McCown was 23-53 as a starter, including 5-11 with the Jets over the past two seasons. He's completed 60.2 percent of his passes, has thrown 98 touchdowns, 82 interceptions and has a 79.7 passer rating.

# KONQER to host inaugural OCR on Rota

KONQER, Guam's original obstacle course race, continues its expansion across Micronesia with the first-ever Enduro Championship (E1) event on Rota on Sept 14, according to KONQER chief experience officer Kaz Endo.

"Like Taga, KONQER was born in Guam, but it's finally moving to Rota," said Endo. "The OCR World has a new championship proving ground. We are so excited to bring the savage and brutal course design to the world's friendliest ssland."

The by-invitation-only event includes 20 entries for the soloist division (male or female), and 20 team spots for the three-person relay division. The course will include a 16K (approximately 10 miles) off-road run, a 3.8K (2.5 miles) open water swim, and 10 obstacles to navigate, with a reward of $1,000 in prize money to the top solo finisher and $3,000 to the top relay team.

"While our main events are designed for participants of all ages and fitness levels to enjoy, the E1 Championship will challenge athletes even of the highest caliber," said Endo. "If you're putting together a relay team, I would suggest putting together a team with people who dominate in a respective area. This means one strong runner, one strong swimmer and one agile ninja!"

Interested participants may apply or be nominated for an invitation to compete at konqersports.com. There is no registration fee for the event, but participants will be responsible for costs of travel and accommodations, with KONQER organizing charter flights to assist athlete transportation to and from Rota.

"We are looking forward to bringing KONQER E1 Championship to Rota, reflecting the MVA's continued efforts to develop additional sporting attractions in Rota and to boost travel to the island from Saipan, Guam, and beyond," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo. "We invite the Rota community to come out after the championship and enjoy the KONQER obstacle course for free with family and friends as we welcome this new event to the island."

After the E1 Championship concludes, the obstacle portion of the event will be open to the public to enjoy. There will be no fee, but all participants will be required to sign a liability waiver prior to enjoying the obstacle course.

"I don't think a course like this exists anywhere in the world," said Endo. "The challenging course set against the stunning island scenery of Rota is something that must be experienced first hand."

For more information, visit konqersports.com or email support@konqersports.com.

The KONQER E1 Championship is presented by MVA, Bank of Guam, APL, and Coors Light, and is sponsored by IT&E, GoPro, TriVision Media Group, DR Safety, Valentino Hotel, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, and Vantage Advertising. ***(PR)***

# Popovich faces tough numbers game for World Cup

**ANAHEIM, Calif.** (AP)—When Gregg Popovich was cut from the 1972 U.S. Olympic basketball roster, those making the decision took the easiest way out.

They posted a note.

"Clueless people," Popovich said, 47 years later, grinning to at least try to suggest it doesn't still bother him too much.

It'll soon be time for Popovich to walk in those same decision-making shoes, when he has to pare USA Basketball's roster from 13 players to 12 in time for the FIBA World Cup this month.

All 13 remaining hopefuls were on the team plane Saturday to Australia. So when the last cut gets made—expect it about Aug. 27, unless injuries happen—a guy will see his gold-medal hopes come to a quick end.

And no, Popovich is not looking forward to this.

"When you cut people from your regular NBA team, it's difficult," said Popovich, USA Basketball's men's national coach. "We're going to have to do that. And it's going to be even more so. I'm dreading having to do that. But it's got to get done."

There have been more than 50 NBA players linked to this World Cup team at some point in the last year or so, most of them dropping out of consideration on their own, citing schedule demands or concerns.

A few others were eliminated after injuries. Only two to this point—Miami's Bam Adebayo and Chicago's Thaddeus Young—were actually cut, those moves coming after the first week of training camp in Las Vegas. It would have been 14 players going to Australia, but Sacramento's De'Aaron Fox decided Saturday to leave the team.

AP

United States' Kemba Walker, left, talks to coach Gregg Popovich during the first half of the team's exhibition basketball game against Spain on Friday, Aug. 16, 2019, in Anaheim, Calif.

So there's one cut left.

It will be downright brutal.

"It just means that guys are doing their jobs," Milwaukee's Khris Middleton said. "We're making it as tough as it can be on them. I think guys have been great all camp, just being positive, bringing energy and playing as hard as they can, giving their body up for everybody else. So that's a huge thing for everybody."

It would seem like there are a handful of locks to make the team: Kemba Walker, Donovan Mitchell, Harrison Barnes, Mason Plumlee, Myles Turner and Middleton. They were starters Friday night against Spain — Plumlee started the first half, Turner the second, with the U.S. still mixing and matching.

Jayson Tatum played more minutes than nearly everyone Friday. Joe Harris—the NBA's best 3-point shooter last season—should be on this team based on the importance of shooting from deep in the international game. Brook Lopez should make the team for the same reason since his 7-foot frame and 3-point game seem made for the FIBA stage.

That's nine, or four guys left for three spots.

Marcus Smart is a bit of a wild card—unable to play in either the Spain game or the intrasquad scrimmage Aug. 9 because of a calf issue, though the fact that he's still on the roster strongly suggests the U.S. has him in its plans. Assuming he's healthy now, pencil him into a spot. (If he's not healthy, that makes the decision obvious and simple.) Jaylen Brown brings toughness, and he's played well enough to merit a uniform as well.

That, if the U.S. is keeping Smart, makes it 11 players.

## CONNIE'S

*From Page 28*

22, 50-28, as Frank Bongalan picked up where Esmores left off after firing 11 points, 6 of them came from downtown. Nelson Cabang and Bobby Dela Cruz also stepped up in the second quarter with the former adding 11 points and the latter making two triples and contributing 8.

The 20-plus point margin in the first half was enough for Connie's BBQ to negate the better offensive performance of Light & Salt in the second half. Light & Salt outgunned Connie's BBQ in the second and third frames, but the latter was still able to hit rally-halting baskets to keep its safe distance.

Esmores paced Connie's BBQ with his 21 points, while Cabang and Bongalan chipped in 13 and 12, respectively, and Kerwin Dayao and Austin Camacho also finished in double figures with 10 each.

Rommel Usi led Light & Salt after making 24 markers, while his older brother, Mico, tallied 15.

Meanwhile, Saipan Adventure downed Gilas Batangas in the second game last Friday, 59-51.

Saipan Adventure held Gilas Batang to single digit in scoring in the first and third periods to notch its third win in the Tsingtao Beer-sponsored league.

Saipan Adventure doubled up Gilas Batangas in the opening canto, 19-8, and after the latter cut the deficit to 5 at the break, 26-31, the eventual winning team limited its foe to 8 markers in the penultimate frame for a 48-34 advantage.

It was cruise control for Saipan Adventure from thereon.

Jun Alipio top-scored for Saipan Adventure with his 15 points, while Erwin Lumamlan had 10 for Gilas Batang.

### First Game

**Connie's BBQ 98**—Esmores 21, Cabang 13, Bongalan 12, Dayao 10, Camacho 10, Dela Cruz 8, Rodriguex 5, Centina 4, Echavez 4, Deleon Guerrero 3, Danao 2.

**Light & Salt 79**—R. Usi 24, M. Usi 15, Natividad 15, Agustin 11, Laxamana 7, Tamin 3, Oblimaga 3, Embile 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-10, 50-28, 77-56, 98-79.

**Saipan Adventure 59**—Alipio 15, Almario 8, Flores 7, Maesa 6, Morales 5, Ocampo 5, Leomo 4, Mungcal 3, Singca 2.

**Gilas Batang 51**—Lumamlan 10, Ege 8, Alviz 8, Dacumos 8, Hernandez 4, Acosta 2, Daluyen 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-9, 31-26, 48-34, 59-51

## SAIPAN

*From Page 28*

Atan and Bondoc added 20 and 17, respectively. Basa had 16, 12 of them came from the 3-point area, while Schmidt had an all-around game, as he flirted with a triple double after recording 12 markers, 12 assists, and nine steals. The former CNMI national team member also had 7 rebounds.

While Saipan Vegas had several players hitting double figures, Alipio and Torregosa were the only two bright spots for TanHoldings after making 19 and 16 points, respectively.

### The Game 86, AK Toyota 76

In the second match, The Game saved the best for last to steal the win from AK Toyota.

The Game logged 26 points in the fourth quarter—its highest production in a quarter—to turn a 60-64 deficit at the end of the third to a 10-point victory.

The trio of Jun Javier, Mark Mintac, and Keith Santos joined forces for The Game in the payoff period, as they delivered 6 points apiece. Jun Fidelino added 4 points, while Bryan Bernardo and Jave Sablan contributed 2 markers each.

AK Toyota collapsed in the fourth period, as only Rodney Catalla drilled more than one field goal for the squad, making a triple and a deuce. Kelvin Fitial, who had 16 points after three periods, was scoreless in the final frame, while George De Guzman and Jediael Manalo nailed only one basket each, and Brian Natividad was held to a pair of free throws.

### First Game

**Saipan Vegas 108**—Sablan 23, Atan 20, Bondoc 17, P. Basa 16, Schmidt 12, Libuw 8, Rabauliman 6, Pua 4, Diaz 2.

**TanHoldings 80**—Alipio 19, Torregosa 16, Deleon Guerrero 12, Centina 9, Dayao 6, Pablo 5, Tenepere 5, Echavez 4, Lumen 2, Nonato 2.

**Scoring by quarters**: 32-20, 57-42, 83-64, 108-80.

### Second Game

**The Game 86**—Mintac 23, Fidelino 18, Jo. Sablan 11, Santos 10, Castro 5, Ja. Sablan 4, Abejo 3, Bernardo 2.

**AK Toyota 76**—Fitial 16, Manalo 10, Catalla 11, Boswell 8, Natividad 8, De Guzman 9, Borja 2, Francia 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 21-18 42-41, 60-64, 86-76.

## CAROL

*From Page 28*

excluding the ones she earned in last week's competition.

Lee is in the main draw of both the singles and doubles events of the Australian Winter International, which will start its qualifying games today. The main draw matches will kick off this Wednesday and games will run until Sunday.

The CNMI bet debuted in the Australian Winter International last year and made it to the Last 16 of the singles division and lost her opener in the doubles. Lee defeated Aussie Cyan Sun, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, and then lost to the latter's compatriot Bojana Marinkov, 6-4, 6-7(7), 4-6, in the Round of 16. In the doubles, Lee and Chiara Di Tommaso of Australia were defeated by New Zealand's Ema Miyaura and Jade Otway, 6-7 (6), 6-3, 10-5.

Yankees erupt at umpires, defeat Indians

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Thomas shatters course record at Medinah

PAGE 25

# Saipan Vegas wins opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Vegas blew out TanHoldings, 108-80, for a rousing start in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Saipan Vegas caught fire early to set the tone in the one-sided match and hit past the century mark in its debut in the 10-team league. Saipan Vegas exploded for 32 points in the first quarter to establish a double-digit lead, 32-20, and never gave TanHoldings a chance to trim the deficit to a decent number.

Preston Basa, Douglas Schmidt, Franco Bondoc, Aiferson Atan, and Greg Sablan teamed up in Saipan Vegas' jackrabbit start. Basa drilled two triples and finished the first quarter with 8 points—the same output Schmidt, Sablan, and Bondoc had—while Atan added 6.

TanHoldings' offense in the opening canto was not that bad, as Jun Alipio and Michael Torregosa tried to keep the squad afloat after combining for 15 markers. However, TanHoldings simply could not match Saipan Vegas' firepower and quickness, as the latter's young guns pushed the ball on several occasions to get away with uncontested layups.

With Saipan Vegas' guns blazing, its lead never went down to single digit despite limiting the minutes of its starters in the second half with the team sitting comfortably on top.

With its offense in sync, Saipan Vegas had five players scoring in double figures. Sablan finished with 23, while

See SAIPAN on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Vegas' Suanni Pua, center, takes off for a layup against TanHoldings Jun Alipio, right, and Biboy Centina during the third quarter of their game in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

## Connie's BBQ routs Light & Salt

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Connie's BBQ's Austin Camacho, center, blocks a shot from a Pardz player during their game last week in the One Pacific caging at the Civic Center Court in Susupe. Connie's BBQ returned to the court last Friday and demolished Light & Salt, 98-79.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Connie's BBQ hammered Light & Salt, 98-79, in the curtain-raiser in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Friday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Connie's BBQ played solid in the first two quarters to gain control of the match en route to their 19-point winning margin.

Ronald Esmores led Connie's BBQ's strong start, as his 8 markers in the opening period gave the team a 20-10 advantage. The lead ballooned to

See CONNIE'S on Page 27

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Carol Lee is now in Australia and will be playing in the 2019 Australian Winter International in Tweed Heads, New South Wales this week.

## Carol eyes better showing in Australia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior player Carol Lee has moved on from a semis loss in the 2019 Oceania Closed Junior Championships and is aiming for a better finish in another high-level tournament this week.

Lee, who faltered in her bid for a return trip to the finals in last week's Oceania Closed in Fiji after losing to Talia Gibson of Australia in a three-set semis match, is now in Australia to compete in the 2019 Australian Winter International in Tweed Heads, New South Wales.

"My opponent was a tough player to beat in semifinals. She used her tactics very well against me. My service game wasn't effective to her as well. Even though I am disappointed I lost that match, I know what I need to work on and I can't be disappointed too long because I have another ITF Juniors tournament coming up, and I have another chance," said Lee.

The Australian Winter International is a Grade 2 event—the same level as Oceania Closed and awards 160 and 120 ranking points to the singles and doubles champions, respectively.

Lee, who is currently ranked No. 119, got 60 ranking points for her semis stint in the singles event of the Oceania Closed and 45 in the doubles. The Commonwealth player has a total of 335 points in singles and 320 in doubles,

See CAROL on Page 27